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# LABOUR BULLETIN

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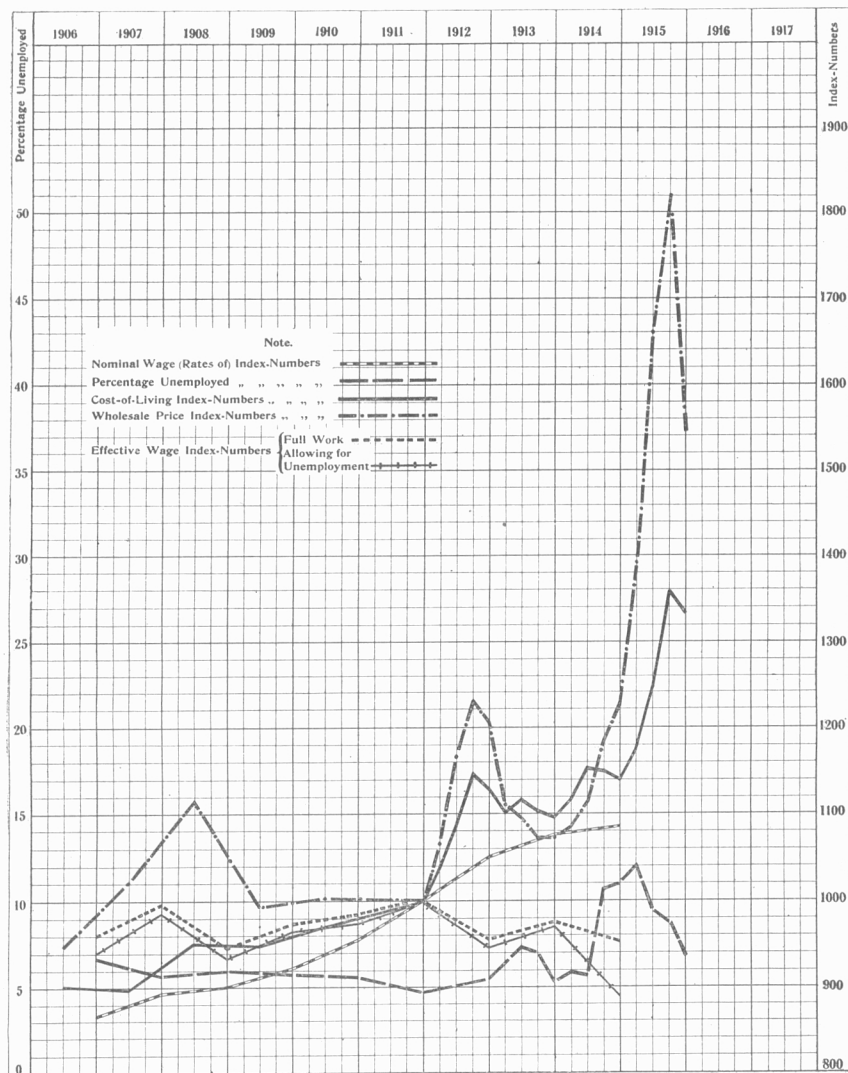




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# Cost-of-Living, Wholesale Prices, and Nominal and Effective Wage Index-Numbers, and Percentage of Unemployed.



**EXPLANATORY NOTE.**—The figures on the left represent the scale for the percentage of persons unemployed according to trade union returns. The figures on the right represent the scale for the several index-numbers, the year 1911 being taken in each case as base (= 1000). Since the end of the year 1911 the index-numbers for cost of living (average for the six metropolitan towns) and for wholesale prices (Melbourne) are shewn each quarter, while unemployment percentages are shewn quarterly since the end of the year 1912 only. Unemployment figures for previous years are shewn as at the end of each year, while other index-numbers refer to the average for the whole year. Nominal and effective wage index-numbers are only computed annually. It should be observed that the cost-of-living and wholesale price index-numbers since the year 1911 shew the average level during the whole of each quarter; but for purposes of convenience they have, however, been plotted on the graph as at the end, and not the middle, of each quarter. The cost-of-living index-number is based upon a constant regimen: see Report No. 1, Appendix vii., and Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 27 to 46.

# LABOUR BULLETIN.

No. 12.—OCTOBER to DECEMBER, 1915.

(*Containing Summarised Results for the Year 1915.*)

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## SECTION I.—INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

1. **General.**—Returns received from the secretaries of trade unions shew that unemployment in the Commonwealth decreased from the third to the fourth quarters of 1915 from 8.8 to 6.8 per cent., the corresponding percentage in the last quarter (October to December) of 1914 being 11.0 per cent. The decrease was common to all the States except Tasmania. As regards industrial groups the decrease was common to all groups except Groups II. (Engineering, etc.), VIII. (Mining), and X. (Other Land Transport), and in those groups the increase was small. Further, the percentage of unemployment in Groups II. and X. is, notwithstanding this increase, still relatively low. In the mining industry the percentage of unemployment increased from 8.2 in the third quarter to 8.4 in the fourth quarter of 1915. The completion of the results for the last quarter of 1915 enables comparisons to be made for the whole of that year. In making such comparisons, it should, however, be observed that the returns for years prior to 1913 relate to the percentage unemployed at the end of the year, and therefore do not take into account variations in employment and unemployment during the year owing to seasonal activity and other causes. The returns collected for each quarter of 1913, 1914 and 1915 shew that these variations are considerable. The percentage returned as unemployed in the fourth quarter of 1915 was 6.8, compared with 11.0 for the end of the year 1914, 5.3 for the end of the year 1913, and 5.5 at the end of the year 1912.

In addition to the usual information and statistical tables published in this Bulletin, the present issue contains a special section giving the result of the third annual investigation into the relative cost of living in a number of towns in the Commonwealth. The two previous investigations, referred to 100 towns. The present investigation, however, has been extended to include 150 towns, and tables shewing the relative cost of living in these towns are given in Section IV. hereof.

Throughout this report, all comparisons in the cost of living are based upon the assumption of a constant regimen: see Labour Report No. 1, Appendix viii., and Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 27 to 46.

2. **Weather Conditions and Rural Industries.**—The reports received as to weather conditions in December of last year and January, 1916, were generally favourable. In New South Wales serviceable and in some places very good rains resulted from thunderstorms in December. The rainfall for this month and for January, however, was generally

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NOTE.—The Labour Bulletin, in its accounts of proceedings, abstracts of reports, legal decisions, quotations and other matters of concern to labour, is not to be regarded as expressing an official endorsement of any of the views or opinions contained therein.

below the average. In the Hunter and Metropolitan districts conditions remain fairly good, though crops were somewhat backward, and a scarcity of water evident. Better conditions prevailed in the South Coast district, though more rain is required for the corn crops. Stock, however, were generally good, and dairying returns satisfactory. Reports from the North-Western, Central and Southern Tablelands, South-Western Slope Riverina and Western Division were generally favourable, but in the North-Western and Central-Western Slopes and Plain, there was a scarcity of feed and water with a consequent falling-off in the condition of stock. The reports as to the wheat harvest shew that generally most satisfactory yields were obtained. In Victoria, harvesting operations were practically completed by the end of January, and yields were reported to be everywhere equal to, or in excess of estimates. Reports received shew that in practically all parts of the State the condition of stock and crops was entirely satisfactory. The month of December saw the breakup of the drought over practically the whole of the State of Queensland. In some parts of the South Coast and inland grazing areas, however, the rains were insufficient to give permanent relief. In the sugar cane districts the prospects for the next harvest are said to be favourable. Reports for January shew that on the North and Central Coast, Central Lowlands, Upper Western and Darling Downs districts, conditions continued to be favourable, but that in parts of the Central Highlands and of the South Coast districts there was a scarcity of feed and water, and that stock and crops were in poor condition. In South Australia, December was a dry month throughout the whole of the settled and pastoral areas of the State, with the exception of the Lower North Agricultural district, where the monthly rainfall was practically normal as the result of thunderstorms. The weather, however, was ideal for harvesting operations, and excellent returns are reported from all wheat areas. Though the rainfall for the month of January was for the most part below normal, pastures were generally reported to be abundant though dry, and stock in good condition, except in the far interior pastoral districts. Throughout the fruit-growing districts reports shew that the prospects for the harvest were good, and that yields will be heavy. In Western Australia harvesting operations were well advanced in December, and by the end of January were completed in most cases. Although the yield is said to be below the original expectations yet excluding a few centres it was satisfactory, and well above the average. Stock were reported to be in good condition, and feed everywhere plentiful. In Tasmania, December was the driest on record, but some relief was experienced by welcome showers in the early part of January, and heavy general rains during the last days of that month. These rains, however, caused considerable damage to the wheat and fruit crops. Feed for stock is reported to be plentiful, and the condition of stock to be good.

**3. Variations in Prices and Price-Indexes.**—The completion of the returns for the last quarter of 1915 enables comparisons to be made between the whole of that year and preceding years. In 1912 there was a rise in the cost-of-living index-number, amounting to 10 per cent. The index-number for whole of the year 1913 shewed that the rise was not continued during that year, the average being practically the same as for the year 1912. The average for 1914 shewed an increase on 1913 amounting to 3.1 per cent. In 1915 there was a further rise amounting

to no less than 12.7 per cent. for that year. Prices of food and groceries advanced 23.8 per cent., while there was a decrease in the cost of housing accommodation of 4.8 per cent. The increase in cost-of-living indexes in 1915, compared with 1911 was 27.8 per cent., food and groceries shewing an increase of 41.6 per cent., and house rents 8.1 per cent. During the last quarter of 1915 the index-number for thirty of the more important towns in the Commonwealth was 1213 compared with 1234 in the preceding quarter, and 1031 in the corresponding quarter of 1914. There was a decrease during the last quarter of 1915 in prices of dairy produce and of meat. House rents remained stationary, and prices of groceries were in the aggregate higher, though generally flour and bread were lower. The decreases in the dairy produce and meat groups more than counter-balanced the increases in prices in the grocery group.

4. **Wholesale Prices.**—The general level of wholesale prices shews that there was a substantial decrease during the quarter under review compared with the immediately preceding quarter. The index-number for the fourth quarter of 1915 was 1544, compared with 1822 in the third quarter of the same year. The decrease was due to the fall in prices of agricultural and dairy produce and meat. The results for the whole of the year shews that wholesale, in common with retail prices, advanced during 1915. The increase in the case of wholesale prices amounts to 39.6 per cent. compared with 12.7 per cent. in retail prices. This affords a further confirmation of the conclusions arrived at in connection with these investigations that fluctuations in prices are generally more violent in the case of wholesale than of retail prices. (See Report No. 5, page 40).

5. **Industrial Disputes.**—The number of disputes which began during the quarter under review was 149, compared with 91 in the preceding quarter. Of this number, 114 occurred in New South Wales. In the new disputes, 27,390 persons were directly, and 9838 indirectly, involved, giving a total of 37,228. The total number of working days lost in new disputes was 221,960, and in addition 16,344 working days were lost through disputes which began before the fourth quarter of 1915, and which were unsettled at the end of the third quarter. The total loss in wages in both old and new disputes was £120,409, which is greater than the loss occasioned during any previous quarter of 1915. The principal disputes during the quarter occurred in New South Wales and Victoria, those occurring in the other States being small in number and of a comparatively insignificant character. Summarised results are given in Section VI. hereof for the whole of the years 1913 and 1914, and for each quarter of 1915. It will be seen that the number of disputes, as well as the number of working hours and amount of wages lost, was considerably greater in 1914 than in 1913.

6. **Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The number of changes (all of which, with the exception of 4, were increases) recorded during the fourth quarter of the year 1915 was 209, of which 76 occurred in New South Wales, 47 in Victoria, 28 in Queensland, 24 in South Australia, 14 in Western Australia, 16 in Tasmania and 2 in the Northern Territory. The total number of persons affected was 131,090, and the aggregate increases in wages per week was £35,892. The largest number of persons

affected and the largest increase in wages in any single industrial group was in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous) in which 31,382 persons obtained increases aggregating £12,033. The net results of the 209 changes shews the average amount of increase per head per week to be 5s. 6d.

7. **Current Rates of Wages.**—The weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult male workers for a full week's work for the Commonwealth increased from 56s. in the third quarter to 56s. 6d. in the fourth quarter of 1915. The similar rate for females was in the third quarter of 1915, 27s. 3d., and in the fourth quarter of the same year, 27s. 4d.

8. **Miscellaneous.**—During the quarter, 1264 selected and nominated immigrants, comprising 742 dependants, arrived in the Commonwealth, compared with 1158 in the previous quarter. The greatest number, 464, arrived in Queensland. As regards occupations, 74 of the males are classified in the agricultural, pastoral, etc., group, while 265 of the females are domestic servants. The total number of immigrants arriving in the Commonwealth during 1915 was less than for any year since 1908. It is less than half the number arriving in any of the previous years recorded. The State Government Free Employment Bureaux report that during the quarter under review 20,950 applications for employment were received. During the same period 7800 applications from employers were received, and 9747 positions filled. The number of fatal accidents reported during the quarter was 24, compared with 44 in the preceding quarter, and of accidents causing incapacitation from work for over 14 days, 1086, compared with 1186 in the preceding quarter. The total number of fatal accidents in the year 1915 was 135, compared with 159 in 1914, while the number of accidents causing incapacitation for over 14 days was 4649 in 1915, as against 4912 in 1914. By far the greatest number of accidents occurred in the mining industry. These figures are exclusive of mining accidents in Western Australia during the fourth quarter of 1915.

## SECTION II.—UNEMPLOYMENT.

1. **General.**—Returns as to unemployment for the quarter ended 31st December, 1915, were received from 465 trade unions, having a membership of 273,149. The number unemployed was 18,489, or 6.8 per cent., compared with 8.8 per cent. for the preceding quarter (July to September), 11.0 per cent. for the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914, and 5.5 per cent. for the end of 1912. The percentages of unemployment for years prior to 1913 refer to the end of the year only, and not to intermediate quarters, when the percentages may have been greater, especially during the winter months, than those recorded at the end of the year. The following table shews the number of unions reporting as to unemployment, their membership, and the number and percentage unemployed. The returns do not include persons out of work through strikes or lockouts.

**Unemployment.—Number of Unions and Members Reporting, and Number and Percentage Unemployed, 1891 to 1915 (4th Quarter).**

PARTICULARS.	Unions.	Membership.	UNEMPLOYED.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 .. .. .	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 .. .. .	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 .. .. .	39	8,710	574	6.6
1906 .. .. .	47	11,299	753	6.7
1907 .. .. .	51	13,179	757	5.7
1908 .. .. .	68	18,685	1,117	6.0
1909 .. .. .	84	21,122	1,223	5.8
1910 .. .. .	109	32,995	1,857	5.6
1911 .. .. .	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1912 .. .. .	464	224,023	12,441	5.5
1913, 1st Quarter* ..	451	237,216	15,234	6.4
2nd „ * ..	458	243,523	17,854	7.3
3rd „ * ..	472	252,325	17,698	7.0
4th „ * ..	465	251,207	13,430	5.3
1914, 1st „ * ..	462	262,133	15,541	5.9
2nd „ * ..	467	279,318	15,856	5.7
3rd „ * ..	466	283,584	30,367	10.7
4th „ * ..	439	250,716	27,610	11.0
1915, 1st „ * ..	476	279,388	33,465	12.0
2nd „ * ..	456	273,190	26,015	9.5
3rd „ * ..	484	279,133	24,682	8.8
4th „ * ..	465	273,149	18,489	6.8

\* For years prior to 1913 the figures refer to the end of the year only, and not to separate quarters. The quarterly figures shew the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter; they do not include persons out of work through strikes or lock-outs.

For reasons indicated on pages 16 to 18 of Labour Report No. 2, this table does not furnish a complete register of unemployment. Nevertheless, for the purpose of making comparisons, and shewing tendencies over a period of years, the percentages returned as unemployed, though not exact, are the most satisfactory available. The significance of the figures shewing the percentage of unemployment may be better understood by reference to the graph on page 324. The figures shew that the percentage of unemployment decreased during the fourth quarter of 1915 to 6.8 per cent. During the quarter under review the percentage of unemployment was less than in the third quarter of 1915 in all the States except Tasmania. The decrease was common to all industrial groups except Groups II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.), VIII. (Mining), and X. (Other Land Transport). Compared with the corresponding quarter, October to December of 1914, the percentage was lower in all the States, and in all industrial groups except Groups III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), and VIII. (Mining).

**2. Unemployment in Different States for Quarter ended 31st December, 1915.**—Of the 465 organisations reporting unemployment, the largest number (139 unions with 119,759 members) was in New South Wales, Victoria (with 101 unions and 79,696 members) coming next. As pointed out in the previous issues of this Bulletin, the industrial occupations of the people, as well as the extent to which the different industries are represented in the returns, vary considerably in the several



States. Any comparisons, therefore, that are drawn between these results are necessarily subject to the qualification that the figures relate to some extent to different classes of industry.

In the following table particulars are given for the quarter ended the 31st December last, as to the number and percentage unemployed, and the increase or decrease compared with the preceding quarter (July to September 1915), and with the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914 :—

**Unemployment in different States, for Quarter ending 31st December, 1915.**

STATE.	Number Reporting.		Unemployed.		Percentage Unemployed in—		Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage compared with—	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.	3rd Quar. 1915.	4th Quar. 1914.	3rd Quar. 1915.	4th Quar. 1914.
N.S. Wales ..	139	119,759	6,594	5.5	7.0	6.9	— 1.5	— 1.4
Victoria ..	101	79,696	6,270	7.9	9.2	14.1	— 1.3	— 6.2
Queensland ..	47	27,747	2,782	10.0	15.6	17.7	— 5.6	— 7.7
Sth. Australia	62	20,979	1,144	5.4	7.4	13.8	— 2.0	— 8.4
W. Australia	74	19,523	1,230	6.3	8.5	8.6	— 2.2	— 2.3
Tasmania ..	42	5,445	469	8.6	7.2	18.3	+ 1.4	— 9.7
C'WLTH ..	465	273,149	18,489	6.8	8.8	11.0	— 2.0	— 4.2

NOTE.—As to the general limitations of the figures given in the above table, see remarks on p. 329.

Compared with the quarter immediately preceding there was a decrease in unemployment in all the States except Tasmania. In New South Wales slight increases in unemployment occurred in the iron trades, mining, and land transport (exclusive of railway and tramway services). These increases were small, and were more than counterbalanced by decreases in the remaining industrial groups. In Victoria the only industrial group which reported an increase in unemployment was that covering the industries connected with the manufacture and distribution of food, drink, tobacco, etc. (Group III.). The high price of stock and the prohibition of export of frozen produce is advanced as the reason for this increase. The remaining industrial groups all report an improvement in employment. There was a decrease in the percentage of unemployment in Queensland when compared with the preceding quarter. The percentage for that State, however, is still higher than in any other State. The conditions arising out of the drought with the consequent reduction of employment in sugar and meat works are stated to be the reason for the high percentage of unemployment, though in these industries there has been some improvement since the preceding quarter. The boot and clothing trades both report conditions as bad. In South Australia and Western Australia there has been a general improvement in the condition of the labour market. In Tasmania the increase in unemployment in Groups III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), VI. (Other Manufacturing), and X. (Other Land Transport) more than counterbalanced decreases in the remaining industrial groups, the aggregate result for all groups shewing an increase in unemployment for that State since the preceding quarter. Compared with the corresponding quarter (October to December), of 1914, all the States shew a decrease in unemployment. The decrease being greatest in Tasmania (9.7 per cent.), and least in New South Wales

(1.4 per cent.). The aggregate result for the Commonwealth shews a decrease from 11.0 per cent. in the fourth quarter of 1914, to 6.8 per cent. in the quarter under review.

**3. Unemployment in Different Industries.**—The following table shews the percentages unemployed in several of the fourteen industrial groups. Information as to classification of these groups is given in Labour Report No. 5, page 6. It may be observed that for those industries in which unemployment is either unusually stable, or on the other hand, exceptionally casual, information as to unemployment cannot ordinarily be obtained from trade unions. Hence, certain industries such as railways, shipping, agricultural, pastoral, etc., and domestic, hotels, etc., are insufficiently represented in the returns. Particulars are not, therefore, shewn separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous." For purposes of comparison particulars are included in the table as to the percentage unemployed in the quarter immediately preceding (third quarter of 1915), and the corresponding quarter last year (fourth quarter of 1914). The increase or decrease in the percentages for the current quarter, as compared with each of these preceding quarters, is also given.

**Unemployment in different Industries for the Quarter ending 31st December, 1915.**

INDUSTRIAL GROUP.	Number Reporting.		Unem- ployed.		Percentage Returned as Unem- ployed.		Increase (+) or Decrease(-) in Percentage compared with—	
	Unions.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.	3rd Quarter 1915.	4th Quarter 1914.	3rd Quarter 1915.	4th Quarter 1914.
I.—Wood, Furniture, etc. . . . .	17	11,430	728	6.4	10.7	15.7	—4.3	— 9.3
II.—Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . . . .	56	39,409	1,714	4.3	4.2	12.8	+0.1	— 8.5
III.—Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . . . .	59	22,924	3,474	15.2	24.1	12.3	—8.9	+ 2.9
IV.—Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . . . .	29	20,756	776	3.7	8.3	10.3	—4.6	— 6.6
V.—Books, Printing, etc. . . . .	27	8,916	216	2.4	2.9	6.4	—0.5	— 4.0
VI.—Other Manufacturing . . . . .	63	25,141	1,054	4.2	6.7	9.7	—2.5	— 5.5
VII.—Building . . . . .	55	33,032	3,131	9.5	10.5	12.9	—1.0	— 3.4
VIII.—Mining, Quarrying, etc. . . . .	24	28,627	2,406	8.4	8.2	8.2	+0.2	+ 0.2
X.—Other Land Transport . . . . .	14	9,805	283	2.9	2.6	4.6	+0.3	— 1.7
IX., XI., XII., XIII. and XIV.— Other and Miscellaneous . . . . .	121	73,109	4,707	6.4	7.5	11.2	—1.1	— 4.8
ALL GROUPS . . . . .	465	273,149	18,489	6.8	8.8	11.0	—2.0	— 3.2

NOTE.—As to the general limitations of the figures given in this table, see remarks on page 329.

It may be seen that while the percentage of unemployment has increased slightly in Groups II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.), VIII. (Mining), and X. (Other Land Transport), it has decreased in the remaining industrial groups. The decrease is greatest in Groups III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), IV. (Clothing, etc.), and I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.). The percentage of unemployment for all groups shews a decrease from 8.8 per cent. in the preceding quarter to 6.8 per cent. in the quarter under review. Compared with the corresponding period, (October to December) of 1914, all the industrial groups except Group III. (Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc.), and Group VIII. (Mining), shew a decrease in percentage of unemployment. The decrease is greatest in the timber and engineering trades.

4. **Causes of Unemployment.**—Particulars as to causes of unemployment, classified under three main heads, are available for the fourth quarter of the current year for 455 unions, having a membership of 256,796. The following table shews that of a total number of 17,839 out of work, 15,305 were unemployed through lack of work, 1971 through sickness and accident, and 563 through other causes (excluding persons on strike or locked out):—

**Unemployment according to Causes for the various Industries, States, and Commonwealth, Quarter ended 31st December, 1915.**

PARTICULARS.	Mem- bers.	Lack of Work.		Sickness and Accident.		Other Causes.		TOTAL.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL GROUPS.									
I.—Wood, Furniture, etc. . . . .	11,430	651	5.7	74	0.6	3	0.1	728	6.4
II.—Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . . . .	34,291	1,076	3.1	361	1.1	217	0.6	1,654	4.8
III.—Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . . . .	22,845	3,217	14.1	119	0.5	136	0.6	3,472	15.2
IV.—Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . . . .	20,756	687	3.3	47	0.2	32	0.2	766	3.7
V.—Books, Printing, etc. . . . .	7,066	120	1.7	59	0.8	12	0.2	191	2.7
VI.—Other Manufacturing . . . . .	24,993	841	3.4	187	0.7	24	0.1	1,052	4.2
VII.—Building . . . . .	32,987	2,944	9.0	138	0.4	42	0.1	3,124	9.5
VIII.—Mining, Quarrying, etc. . . . .	28,627	1,757	6.1	637	2.2	12	0.1	2,406	8.4
X.—Other Land Transport . . . . .	9,805	206	2.1	74	0.8	3	..	283	2.9
X., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV.—Other and Miscellaneous . . . . .	63,996	3,806	6.0	275	0.4	82	0.1	4,163	6.5
ALL GROUPS . . . . .	256,796	15,305	5.9	1,971	0.8	563	0.2	17,839	6.9
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO STATES.									
New South Wales . . . . .	107,974	5,234	4.8	808	0.7	500	0.3	6,342	5.8
Victoria . . . . .	79,501	5,598	7.0	529	0.7	121	0.2	6,248	7.9
Queensland . . . . .	24,511	2,413	9.8	144	0.6	25	0.1	2,582	10.5
South Australia . . . . .	20,160	858	4.5	162	0.8	74	0.4	1,094	5.7
Western Australia . . . . .	19,205	798	4.1	268	1.4	38	0.2	1,104	5.6
Tasmania . . . . .	5,445	404	7.4	60	1.1	5	0.1	469	8.7
COMMONWEALTH . . . . .	256,796	15,305	5.9	1,971	0.8	563	0.2	17,839	6.9

The first part of the above table shews the number unemployed owing to the causes specified, classified according to industries; the second, classified according to States. The percentage of unemployment due to "lack of work" was 5.9 compared with 7.8 in the preceding quarter. The percentage due to sickness and accident was the same as in the preceding quarter (0.8), and that due to other causes was also the same as in the preceding quarter (0.2). Of the total amount of unemployment, 85.8 per cent. was due to "lack of work," 11.0 per cent. to "sickness and accident," and 3.2 per cent. to other causes. The percentage unemployed through sickness and accident in mining, quarrying, etc., is nearly three times greater than the average for all groups, and double the percentage in the next highest group.

## SECTION III.—RETAIL PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND COST-OF-LIVING INDEXES.

1. **General.**—During the fourth quarter of 1915 the cost-of-living index-number for the thirty towns for which particulars are collected decreased since the preceding quarter from 1234 to 1213, the index-number for the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914 being 1031. The completion of the figures for the last quarter enables results to be given for the whole of the year 1915, and summarised figures for that year are accordingly included in several of the tables given in this section. The following table furnishes quarterly comparisons for the whole thirty towns from the time when the current investigations were initiated (1st January, 1912):—

**Cost-of-Living Quarterly Index-Numbers.—Average for Thirty Towns, 1912 to 1915.**

Particulars	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Whole Year.
1912 ..	947	988	1,037	1,027	1,000*
1913 ..	998	1,012	998	992	1,000
1914 ..	1,009	1,043	1,040	1,031	1,031
1915 ..	1,065	1,134	1,234	1,213	1,162

\* Basis of Table.

The cost-of-living index-number for the third quarter of 1915 reached the highest point recorded during the period covered by these investigations, viz., since the year 1901. In the quarter under review, however, there was a decrease, though the index-number is still higher than for any quarter except that immediately preceding. Particulars of the cost-of-living index-numbers in each State for the years 1912 to 1915 inclusive, the third and fourth quarters of 1915, and the fourth quarter of 1914, are shewn in the following tables. The weighted aggregate expenditure for the whole of the thirty towns in 1912 is taken as base (= 1000), and the index-numbers are therefore comparable in all respects, that is to say, they shew not only the variations from year to year in each State, but they also furnish comparisons, as to the relative cost in the different States, either in any given year, or as between one year and another and one State and another.

**Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers for each State and Commonwealth,† October, to December, 1915.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Average for 1912 ..	1,042	956	908	1,042	1,103	937	1,000*
„ 1913 ..	1,070	947	888	1,014	1,072	932	1,000
„ 1914 ..	1,092	994	915	1,038	1,088	964	1,031
„ 1915 ..	1,199	1,156	1,069	1,151	1,168	1,110	1,162
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1914	1,083	997	938	1,020	1,103	985	1,031
July „ Sept., 1915	1,273	1,250	1,105	1,213	1,200	1,171	1,234
Oct. to Dec., 1915	1,270	1,199	1,153	1,173	1,156	1,169	1,213

\* Basis of Table.

† Weighted average in each State for the five towns specified in paragraph 3 hereinafter.

2. **Variations in Retail Prices and House Rent Index-Numbers, 1912 to 1915 (4th Quarter).**—The table in the preceding paragraph shows the aggregate effect on the cost-of-living index-numbers for each State of variations in the prices of commodities and house rent. In order to shew the movements in the various main groups of expenditure that make up the whole "composite unit," the commodities are divided into three groups, viz., groceries, dairy produce, and meat, and the following table shews the index-number for each of these groups and for house rent separately, compared with the quarter immediately preceding, the corresponding quarter of 1914, and with the average for the whole of the years 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1915.

Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers for each State, October to December, 1915.  
Weighted Average Expenditure in each Group for Thirty Towns in 1912 as  
Base (= 1000).

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
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## I.—GROCERIES.

Average for 1912 ..	1,018	934	1,080	1,001	1,118	1,013	1,000*
" 1913 ..	977	842	998	917	1,027	919	928
" 1914 ..	979	874	979	933	1,060	928	942
" 1915 ..	1,131	1,072	1,210	1,154	1,262	1,103	1,129
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1914	1,005	938	1,001	973	1,118	985	986
July „ Sept., 1915	1,186	1,104	1,250	1,215	1,336	1,117	1,175
Oct. „ Dec., 1915	1,244	1,157	1,345	1,208	1,292	1,170	1,221

## II.—DAIRY PRODUCE.

Average for 1912 ..	992	956	947	1,069	1,235	971	1,000*
" 1913 ..	991	903	895	1,040	1,186	942	970
" 1914 ..	1,006	954	896	1,066	1,117	1,020	997
" 1915 ..	1,109	1,203	1,155	1,219	1,378	1,262	1,182
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1914	1,119	1,107	1,149	1,296	1,552	1,315	1,174
July „ Sept., 1915	1,183	1,347	1,243	1,278	1,484	1,398	1,284
Oct. „ Dec., 1915	1,126	1,145	1,203	1,121	1,326	1,171	1,155

## III.—MEAT.

Average for 1912 ..	959	979	863	968	1,463	1,143	1,000*
" 1913 ..	1,045	997	853	1,030	1,426	1,200	1,042
" 1914 ..	1,105	1,098	1,017	1,278	1,501	1,281	1,147
" 1915 ..	1,526	1,559	1,321	1,649	1,533	1,566	1,532
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1914	1,119	1,107	1,149	1,296	1,552	1,315	1,174
July „ Sept., 1915	1,796	1,929	1,378	1,857	1,509	1,755	1,786
Oct. „ Dec., 1915	1,747	1,737	1,550	1,788	1,479	1,883	1,715

\* Basis of Table.

Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers for each State, October to December, 1915,  
Weighted Average Expenditure in each Group for Thirty Towns in 1912 as  
Base (= 1000)—continued.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
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## IV.—HOUSE RENT.†

Average for 1912 ..	1,119	962	781	1,094	871	774	1,000*
„ 1913 ..	1,185	1,023	819	1,070	911	810	1,048
„ 1914 ..	1,208	1,054	831	998	884	824	1,061
„ 1915 ..	1,146	1,019	813	896	839	844	1,012
Quarter—							
Oct. to Dec., 1914	1,183	1,027	821	922	867	832	1,033
July „ Sept., 1915	1,145	1,014	813	895	831	848	1,009
Oct. „ Dec., 1915	1,143	1,014	810	897	832	849	1,009

\* Basis of Table.

† See remarks on page 337 paragraph iv.

As regards variations in average prices during the whole of the year 1915, compared with 1914, 1913 and 1912, the increases and decreases in each group and in all groups taken together are shewn in the following statement :—

Cost-of-Living Indexes for Thirty Towns. Percentage of Average Increase or Decrease\* in each Group in 1915 compared with 1914, 1913 and 1912.

Increase or Decrease* in 1915 compared with :—	Groceries.	Dairy Produce.	Meat.	Rent.	Groceries Food, and Rent.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1912 .. ..	12.7	18.2	53.2	1.2	16.2
1913 .. ..	21.7	21.9	47.1	— 3.5	16.2
1914 .. ..	19.8	18.6	33.6	— 4.6	12.7

\* The negative sign denotes a decrease.

The identity in the figures (16.2 per cent.) shewing the increase in 1915 compared with 1913 and 1912, is, of course, due to the fact that there was no change in the average cost-of-living index-numbers for 1912 and 1913 for the thirty towns taken together.

(i.) *Groceries*.—During the quarter under review there was a further rise in the average cost of the commodities included in this group in all the States except South Australia and Western Australia. The increase was greatest in Queensland (7.6 per cent.). In New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania the increase was in each case 4.8 per cent. The index-number for Western Australia was 3.2 per cent., and for South Australia 0.6 per cent. lower than in the preceding quarter. Prices of flour were

lower in all the States, while prices of bread were lower in all the States except Western Australia. There was an increase in the price of jam, currants and raisins in all the States, and of potatoes in all the States except Western Australia. Compared with the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914, all the States shew a substantial increase in the index-numbers for this group. The increase was greatest in Queensland (34.4 per cent.) followed in the order named by South Australia (24.2 per cent.), New South Wales (23.8 per cent.), Victoria (23.3 per cent.), Tasmania (18.8 per cent.), and Western Australia (15.6 per cent.). The weighted average index-number for the whole of the thirty towns for the same period shews an increase of 23.8 per cent.

(ii.) *Dairy Produce.*—The index-numbers for this group for the quarter under review, are lower in all the States. The decrease was greatest in Tasmania (16.2 per cent.), followed in the order named by Victoria (15.0 per cent.), South Australia (12.3 per cent.), Western Australia (10.6 per cent.), New South Wales (4.8 per cent.), and Queensland (3.2 per cent.). In all the States the price of butter was lower and prices of bacon and ham were higher. In New South Wales the decrease in the price of butter was less than in the remaining States. The price of milk was lower in all the States except Queensland and Western Australia, and the price of eggs was lower in all the States except Queensland, where there was an increase. The aggregate result of these variations upon the weighted average index-number for the thirty-towns, considered as a whole, shews a decrease of 10 per cent. in the fourth quarter compared with the third quarter of 1915. Compared with the corresponding period (October to December) of 1914, the index-numbers for this group were higher in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, and lower in the remaining States. The greatest increase is shewn in Queensland (4.7 per cent.). The increase in Victoria is 3.4 per cent., and in New South Wales 0.6 per cent. Western Australia shews a decrease of 14.5 per cent., South Australia a decrease of 13.5 per cent., and Tasmania a decrease of 11.0 per cent. The weighted average index-number for the whole of the thirty towns for the same period shews an decrease of 1.6 per cent.

(iii.) *Meat.*—The index-numbers for this group shew a decrease in all the States except Queensland and Tasmania. The increase in the former State was 12.5 per cent., and in the latter 4.4 per cent. In the remaining States the decrease was greatest in Victoria (10.0 per cent.), followed in the order named by South Australia (3.7 per cent.), New South Wales (2.7 per cent.), and Western Australia (2.0 per cent.). The weighted average index-number for the whole of the thirty towns shews a decrease of 4.0 per cent. Compared with the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914, the weighted average increase in the index-number for this group amounts to no less than 46.1 per cent. There has been a substantial increase in all the States except Western Australia, where there has been a decrease of 4.7 per cent. The increase in the remaining States was greatest in Victoria (56.9 per cent.), followed in the order named by New South Wales (56.1 per cent.), Tasmania (43.2 per cent.), South Australia (38.0 per cent.), and Queensland (34.9 per cent.).

(iv.) *Rent*.—The weighted average index-number for this group is the same as for the preceding quarter. In New South Wales and Queensland there has been a slight decrease in the cost of housing accommodation, in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania, a slight increase, and for Victoria the index-number remains the same. Compared with the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914, the index-numbers shew a decrease in all the States except Tasmania. The decrease is greatest in Western Australia (4.0 per cent.), followed in the order named by New South Wales (3.4 per cent.), South Australia (2.7 per cent.), and Victoria and Queensland (1.3 per cent.). The aggregate result of these variations upon the weighted average index-number for the thirty towns considered as a whole shews a decrease of 2.3 per cent. in the fourth quarter of 1915 compared with the corresponding period of 1914.

It was pointed out in the previous issue of this Bulletin (Bulletin No. 11, p. 211), that in Broken Hill and Port Pirie prevailing conditions rendered it a matter of difficulty, if not of impossibility, to ascertain the predominant rents with precision. Similar conditions prevailed during the quarter under review, the rents paid depending upon the extent of unemployment or broken time of the tenant. Predominant rents in these towns have, therefore, been computed in accordance with special inquiries that have been made.

**3. Variations in Cost-of-Living Indexes in each of Thirty Towns, 1912 to 1915.**—In the table p. 338 the index-numbers are for the fourth quarter of 1915, the preceding quarter (July to September, 1915), and the corresponding quarter (October to December), of 1914. The average index-numbers for the whole of the years 1912, 1913, 1914, and 1915 are included for comparative purposes. The index-numbers for the fourth quarter of 1915 are lower than for the quarter immediately preceding in all the States except Queensland, the aggregate result for the whole of the thirty towns shewing a decrease of 1.7 per cent. As will be seen by a reference to paragraph 2, there was a general rise in the index-number for groceries, and a general fall in the index-number for dairy produce, while house rents remained practically stationary. With regard to meat, the index-number was lower in all the States except Queensland and Tasmania. In the former State the increase in the cost of meat and groceries more than counterbalanced the decrease in the cost of dairy produce, but in Tasmania the decrease in cost of dairy produce was greater than the increase in the cost of groceries and meat.

Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1914, all the towns shew an increase. This increase is due to the increased cost of food and groceries, house rents being lower in all the States except Tasmania.

The weighted average cost-of-living index-number for the whole of the thirty towns was 12.7 per cent. higher in 1915 than in 1914, and 16.2 per cent. higher than in 1912 or 1913. Compared with 1914 the increase in cost of living in 1915 was greatest in Queensland (16.8 per cent.), followed in the order named by Victoria (16.3 per cent.), Tasmania (15.1 per cent.), South Australia (10.9 per cent.), New South Wales (9.7 per cent.), and Western Australia (7.4 per cent.).



Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers (Groceries, Food and House Rent), for each of Thirty Towns, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1915, with Weighted Average for all Towns in 1912 as Base (= 1000).

Particulars.	1912.	1913.	1914.		1915.		
	Base for Whole Year (= 1000)	Whole Year.	Whole Year.	4th Quarter (Oct. to Dec.).	Whole Year.	3rd Quarter (July to Sept.).	4th Quart. (Oct. to Dec.)
<b>N. S. WALES—</b>							
Sydney	1,063	1,091	1,117	1,114	1,225	1,301	1,296
Newcastle	884	913	921	927	1,062	1,123	1,129
Broken Hill§	1,000	1,027	989	814	1,007	1,050	1,093
Goulburn	965	1,006	1,046	1,061	1,179	1,246	1,263
Bathurst	850	880	914	902	1,022	1,086	1,085
*Weighted Aver.	1,042	1,070	1,092	1,083	1,199	1,273	1,270
<b>VICTORIA—</b>							
Melbourne	977	973	1,023	1,024	1,182	1,275	1,224
Ballarat	846	801	837	852	1,029	1,129	1,076
Bendigo	857	833	854	861	1,028	1,138	1,062
Geelong	922	899	937	958	1,094	1,183	1,145
Warrnambool	865	865	888	897	1,071	1,176	1,124
*Weighted Aver.	956	947	994	997	1,156	1,250	1,199
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>							
Brisbane	907	897	923	942	1,076	1,118	1,162
Toowoomba	904	855	880	918	1,049	1,095	1,122
Rockhampton	891	870	914	938	1,068	1,086	1,175
Charters Towers	933	886	914	952	1,066	1,067	1,128
Warwick	929	859	844	861	988	1,015	1,049
*Weighted Aver.	908	888	915	938	1,069	1,105	1,153
<b>S. AUSTRALIA—</b>							
Adelaide	1,071	1,038	1,058	1,039	1,166	1,227	1,186
Kadina, Moonta Walleraro	849	845	889	886	1,054	1,129	1,088
Port Pirie§	930	931	977	934	1,085	1,143	1,122
Mt. Gambier	810	814	855	871	1,027	1,090	1,063
Petersburg	938	948	1,042	1,037	1,143	1,207	1,142
*Weighted Aver.	1,042	1,014	1,038	1,020	1,151	1,213	1,173
<b>W. AUSTRALIA—</b>							
Perth ..	1,068	1,044	1,058	1,066	1,132	1,162	1,117
Kalgoorlie and Boulder	1,235	1,176	1,195	1,235	1,295	1,332	1,295
Mid. Junction & Guildford	1,040	1,019	1,022	1,038	1,114	1,146	1,100
Bunbury	1,022	1,002	1,029	1,048	1,106	1,146	1,083
Geraldton	1,162	1,166	1,217	1,204	1,283	1,309	1,268
*Weighted Aver.	1,103	1,072	1,088	1,103	1,168	1,200	1,156
<b>TASMANIA—</b>							
Hobart ..	965	975	1,009	1,030	1,141	1,194	1,191
Launceston	925	899	938	964	1,101	1,171	1,168
Zeehan ..	881	859	831	848	970	1,048	1,031
Beaconsfield	766	745	752	772	917	991	1,002
Queenstown	915	916	945	957	1,118	1,177	1,197
*Weighted Aver.	937	932	964	985	1,110	1,171	1,169
†Weighted Aver for C'wealth	1,000†	1,000	1,031	1,031	1,162	1,234	1,213

\* Average for the five towns. † Average for thirty towns. ‡ Basis of Table, see Labour Report No. 5, pages 27 to 29. § See remarks on page 337, paragraph (iv.) *re* house-rent.

**4. Relative Cost-of-Living Index - Numbers in Different Towns, October to December, 1915.**—In the following table the average expenditure on groceries, food, and house rent for the thirty towns considered as a whole has been taken as base and made to equal 20s. It will be seen that of every 20s. expended, on the average 13s. 9d. must be paid for groceries and food, and 6s. 3d. for rent. The figures given in this table are fully comparable throughout. Thus it may be seen that the same relative quantities of groceries and food, which cost 13s. 5d. in Melbourne, would cost 13s. 9d. in Sydney, 16s. 4d. in Kalgoorlie, 13s. 9d. in Ballarat, and 13s. 9d. on the average prices for all thirty towns. Similarly, compared with a relative payment of 7s. 7d. for housing accommodation in Sydney, in Melbourne only 6s. 9d. is paid, in Adelaide 5s. 10d., in Hobart 5s. 10d. and in Beaconsfield as little as 1s. 6d. Again, the last column (III.) shews the relative amount which must be paid in each town to secure such relative quantities of groceries and food, and to provide housing accommodation which would cost £1 on the average for all towns. It is to be noted that the results are based upon the supposition of a constant regimen, see Labour Report No. 1, Appendix VIII., and Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 27 to 46.

**Purchasing-Power of Money.**—Amounts necessary to purchase in each Town for the Fourth Quarter of 1915, Commodities and Housing Accommodation, which together cost £1 on the Average in the Thirty Towns regarded as a whole.

TOWNS.	I. Groceries and Food.	II. Rent.	III. Groceries Food & Rent.	TOWNS.	I. Groceries and Food.	II. Rent.	III. Groceries Food & Rent.
<b>New South Wales—</b>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	<b>South Australia—</b>	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney ..	13 9	7 7	21 4	Adelaide ..	13 9	5 10	19 7
Newcastle ..	13 8	4 11	18 7	Kadina, Moonta, Wallaaroo ..	14 0	4 0	18 0
Broken Hill ..	15 9	2 3	18 0	Port Pirie ..	14 6	4 0	18 6
Goulburn ..	13 7	7 3	20 10	Mt. Gambier ..	13 0	4 6	17 6
Bathurst ..	13 1	4 10	17 11	Petersburg ..	13 10	5 0	18 10
<b>*Weighted Average</b>	13 10	7 2	21 0	<b>*Weighted Average</b>	13 9	5 7	19 4
<b>Victoria—</b>				<b>Western Australia—</b>			
Melbourne ..	13 5	6 9	21 2	Perth and Fremantle ..	13 2	5 3	18 5
Ballarat ..	13 9	4 0	17 9	Kalgoorlie and Boulder ..	16 4	5 0	21 4
Bendigo ..	13 5	4 1	17 6	Midland Junct'n and Guildford	13 5	4 9	18 2
Geelong ..	13 4	5 6	18 10	Bunbury ..	14 3	3 7	17 10
Warrnambool ..	13 9	4 9	18 6	Geraldton ..	14 9	6 2	20 11
<b>*Weighted Average</b>	13 5	6 4	19 9	<b>*Weighted Average</b>	13 10	5 2	19 0
<b>Queensland—</b>				<b>Tasmania—</b>			
Brisbane ..	13 9	5 5	19 2	Hobart ..	13 10	5 10	19 8
Toowoomba ..	13 11	4 7	18 6	Launceston ..	13 8	5 7	19 3
Rockhampton ..	14 8	4 9	19 5	Zeehan ..	15 2	1 10	17 0
Charters Towers	14 11	3 8	18 7	Beaconsfield ..	15 0	1 6	16 6
Warwick ..	13 4	3 11	17 3	Queenstown ..	15 5	4 4	19 9
<b>*Weighted Average</b>	14 0	5 0	19 0	<b>*Weighted Average</b>	14 0	5 4	19 4
				<b>Weighted Average for all Towns</b>	13 9	6 3	20 0†

\* Average for the five towns.

† See remarks on page 337, paragraph (iv).

‡ Basis of Table.

It will be observed from this table that New South Wales is the most expensive, and Queensland and Western Australia the cheapest States, New South Wales being 4.7 per cent. above and Queensland and

Western Australia 4.9 per cent. below the average. Sydney, in New South Wales, and Kalgoorlie, in Western Australia, are the most expensive towns, and Beaconsfield, in Tasmania, the cheapest. Sydney and Kalgoorlie are 6.8 per cent. above, and Beaconsfield 17.4 per cent. below the weighted average.

**5. Capital Towns only. Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers, 1911 to 1915.**—The tables given in the preceding paragraphs of this section refer to the thirty towns of the Commonwealth for which particulars have been collected since the beginning of 1912. In previous reports information has, however, been furnished for the six capital towns back to 1901. In order to maintain the continuity of the results given in these reports, the following particulars are given for the capital towns only, taking the weighted average cost in 1911 for the six capital towns considered as a whole as base (= 1000):—

**Retail Prices, House Rent and Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in each Capital Town, 1911 to 1915, with Weighted Average Expenditure for the whole of the six Capital Towns in the Year 1911 as Base (=1000)\*.**

Particulars.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.		1915.		
				Whole Year.	4th Quarter (Oct. to Dec.).	Whole Year.	3rd Quarter (July to Sept.)	4th Quarter (Oct. to Dec.).

## GROCERIES AND FOOD.

Sydney	989	1,124	1,131	1,156	1,156	<b>1,396</b>	1,536	<b>1,530</b>
Melbourne	935	1,082	1,024	1,091	1,115	<b>1,411</b>	1,584	<b>1,491</b>
Brisbane	1,018	1,102	1,042	1,078	1,124	<b>1,373</b>	1,450	<b>1,531</b>
Adelaide	1,020	1,154	1,119	1,215	1,233	<b>1,487</b>	1,602	<b>1,526</b>
Perth	1,346	1,345	1,267	1,302	1,330	<b>1,484</b>	1,546	<b>1,460</b>
Hobart	1,058	1,190	1,164	1,212	1,243	<b>1,445</b>	1,541	<b>1,534</b>
Weighted Average	<b>1,000†</b>	1,129	1,095	1,144	1,161	<b>1,416</b>	1,554	<b>1,512</b>

## RENT.

Sydney	1,090	1,183	1,246	1,279	1,271	<b>1,220</b>	1,219	<b>1,213</b>
Melbourne	970	1,016	1,089	1,126	1,093	<b>1,085</b>	1,079	<b>1,081</b>
Brisbane	767	804	863	882	865	<b>860</b>	860	<b>859</b>
Adelaide	1,112	1,160	1,125	1,040	962	<b>932</b>	929	<b>931</b>
Perth	810	880	928	914	896	<b>848</b>	839	<b>842</b>
Hobart	805	829	887	914	924	<b>928</b>	929	<b>931</b>
Weighted Average	<b>1,000†</b>	1,064	1,118	1,135	1,110	<b>1,081</b>	1,078	<b>1,077</b>

**Retail Prices, House Rent and Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in each Capital Town, 1911 to 1915, with Weighted Average Expenditure for the whole of the six Capital Towns in the Year 1911 as Base (— 1000)\*—cont.**

Particulars.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.		1915.		
				Whole Year.	4th Quarter (Oct. to Dec.).	Whole Year.	3rd Quarter (July to Sept.).	4th Quarter (Oct. to Dec.).
GROCERIES, FOOD, AND RENT.								
Sydney	1,031	1,148	1,178	1,206	1,203	<b>1,323</b>	1,406	<b>1,400</b>
Melbourne	950	1,055	1,051	1,105	1,106	<b>1,277</b>	1,377	<b>1,322</b>
Brisbane	915	979	969	997	1,018	<b>1,162</b>	1,208	<b>1,255</b>
Adelaide	1,058	1,157	1,121	1,143	1,122	<b>1,259</b>	1,325	<b>1,282</b>
Perth	1,126	1,154	1,128	1,143	1,152	<b>1,222</b>	1,255	<b>1,206</b>
Hobart	954	1,042	1,050	1,090	1,112	<b>1,233</b>	1,290	<b>1,286</b>
Weighted Average	<b>1,000†</b>	1,101	1,104	1,140	1,140	<b>1,278</b>	1,358	<b>1,333</b>

\* For corresponding figures for previous years see Report No. 5 (pp. 22 to 27) of Labour and Industrial Branch. † Basis of Table. See Report No. 5, p. 22.

NOTE.—The above figures are comparable in all respects. That is to say, they shew not only the increase or decrease in cost of living in each town separately, but also the relative cost as between the several towns.

The weighted average result for the six capital towns taken together shews a decrease in cost-of-living index-numbers of 1.8 per cent. on the preceding quarter. The decrease in the cost of food and groceries amounts to 2.7 per cent. House rents have remained practically stationary. All the towns except Brisbane shew a decrease in the cost of food and groceries. House rents were slightly lower in Sydney and Brisbane, and slightly higher in the remaining towns.

Compared with the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914, the weighted average result for the six capital towns taken together shews an increase in cost of living of 16.9 per cent. Food and groceries shew an *increase* of 30.2 per cent., and house rents a *decrease* of 3 per cent.

The completion of the figures for the last quarter enables comparisons to be made for the whole of the year 1915, with previous years. The weighted average result for the six capital towns taken together shews that the cost-of-living index-number for 1915 was 12.1 per cent. higher than in 1914, 16.1 per cent. higher than in either 1912 or 1913, and 27.8 per cent. higher than in 1911. The increase in cost of living since 1911 is greatest in Sydney (32.3 per cent.), followed in the order named by Melbourne (27.7 per cent.), Adelaide (25.9 per cent.), Hobart (23.3 per cent.), Perth (22.2 per cent.), and Brisbane (16.2 per cent.)

The variations in prices of the commodities included in the investigations made by this Bureau have not been uniform in the capital cities. The result of this is that the relation between the towns has been considerably changed. Thus in 1911 the cost-of-living index-number was higher in Perth than in any other town, while it was lower in Melbourne

than in any town except Brisbane, but for 1915 the index-number for Perth was lower than in any town except Brisbane, and the index-number for Melbourne was higher than in any town except Sydney.

**6. Purchasing-Power of Money.**—In the following table the average cost for the six capital towns in the year 1911 has again been taken as base. This base has been taken as equal to 20s. instead of 1000 as in the former tables. The figures shew the variations in cost of living from year to year in each town separately (in the vertical lines), and the relative cost in the several towns in each year (in the horizontal lines). It may be seen, for instance, that 20s. 7d. in Sydney in 1911 was equivalent to 18s. 4d. in Brisbane, or 19s. 1d. in Hobart, or that 28s. 0d. in Melbourne for the fourth quarter of 1915 was equivalent to 15s. 5d. in Brisbane in 1901, or 22s. 6d. in Perth in 1913.

**Purchasing-Power of Money.**—Amounts necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1915 (4th quarter) to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.†

Year.		Sydney.	Melb'rne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns	
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901	.. ..	17 10	17 5	15 5	17 3	20 6	17 5	17	7
1902	.. ..	19 7	18 1	16 0	17 3	21 7	17 10	18	7
1903	.. ..	19 2	17 7	15 9	16 9	21 8	17 11	18	2
1904	.. ..	17 5	17 1	14 8	16 3	20 10	17 1	17	2
1905	.. ..	18 9	17 7	15 5	17 6	20 11	17 9	18	0
1906	.. ..	18 8	17 7	15 7	17 10	20 5	18 0	18	0
1907	.. ..	18 6	17 6	15 11	17 11	19 9	17 9	17	11
1908	.. ..	19 9	18 6	17 1	19 1	20 0	18 5	19	0
1909	.. ..	19 9	18 1	17 0	19 10	19 9	19 0	19	0
1910	.. ..	19 11	18 10	17 6	20 2	20 6	19 0	19	5
1911	.. ..	20 7	19 0	18 4	21 2	22 6	19 1	20	0*
1912	.. ..	22 11	21 1	19 7	23 2	23 1	20 10	22	0
1913	.. ..	23 7	21 0	19 5	22 5	22 6	21 1	22	1
1914	.. ..	24 1	22 1	19 11	22 10	22 10	21 10	22	10
1915	.. ..	26 6	25 6	23 3	25 2	24 5	24 8	25	7
1912	{ 1st Quarter	21 4	19 9	19 6	22 6	22 4	19 7	20	9
	{ 2nd     "	22 5	20 10	19 6	23 2	23 8	20 2	21	9
	{ 3rd     "	24 1	22 1	19 8	23 8	23 6	21 5	22	11
	{ 4th     "	23 10	21 8	19 8	23 3	22 10	22 2	22	7
1913	{ 1st     "	23 5	21 0	19 1	22 8	22 6	21 1	22	0
	{ 2nd     "	23 10	21 2	19 7	22 11	22 11	21 3	22	4
	{ 3rd     "	23 6	21 1	19 4	22 4	22 4	21 1	22	1
	{ 4th     "	23 6	20 10	19 6	21 10	22 5	20 10	21	11
1914	{ 1st Quarter	24 0	21 4	19 7	22 4	22 3	21 1	22	4
	{ 2nd     "	24 3	22 7	19 9	23 6	22 10	22 0	23	1
	{ 3rd     "	24 2	22 5	20 1	23 2	23 3	21 10	23	0
	{ 4th     "	24 1	22 1	20 4	22 5	23 0	22 3	22	10
1915	{ 1st     "	24 7	22 11	21 1	23 3	23 10	22 10	23	6
	{ 2nd     "	25 2	25 3	22 8	25 4	24 8	24 3	24	11
	{ 3rd     "	28 1	27 6	24 2	26 6	25 1	25 10	27	2
	{ 4th     "	28 0	26 5	25 1	25 8	24 1	25 9	26	8

\* Basis of Table.

† It is necessary to observe that figures given for the Capital towns in this table are not comparable with those given in the table on page 339. This will be at once evident when it is explained that in the case of the above table the base taken is the weighted average of the six Capital towns for 1911, whereas the base of the table on page 339 is the weighted average for 30 towns for the first quarter of 1915. These results are based upon the regimen referred to.

(i.) *Groceries and Food only*.—The following table has been computed in the same manner as that indicated above, but relates to *groceries and food* (46 items) only. The average expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 has again been taken as the basis of the table (=20s.), and the figures are, of course, comparable throughout.

**Purchasing-Power of Money.—Groceries and Food only.—Amount necessary on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1915 (4th Quarter) to purchase in each Capital Town what would have cost on the Average £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.\***

Year	Sydney.	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901 .. ..	18 4	19 4	19 4	20 7	23 8	20 3	19 4
1902 .. ..	21 4	20 4	20 4	20 6	25 6	21 0	21 1
1903 .. ..	20 7	19 6	19 9	19 8	25 8	21 1	20 4
1904 .. ..	17 6	18 4	17 10	18 10	24 3	19 8	18 5
1905 .. ..	19 5	19 1	18 11	19 10	25 2	20 7	19 8
1906 .. ..	19 3	18 11	19 2	19 8	24 9	20 11	19 7
1907 .. ..	18 9	18 6	18 11	19 0	23 11	20 2	19 1
1908 .. ..	20 7	19 11	20 6	20 2	24 6	21 1	20 7
1909 .. ..	20 3	19 0	19 8	20 6	24 3	21 10	20 1
1910 .. ..	20 0	19 2	20 0	20 0	25 0	21 6	20 1
1911 .. ..	19 9	18 8	20 4	20 5	26 11	21 2	20 0†
1912 .. ..	22 6	21 8	22 0	23 1	26 11	23 10	22 1
1913 .. ..	22 8	20 6	20 10	22 5	25 4	23 3	21 11
1914 .. ..	23 1	21 10	21 7	24 4	26 0	24 3	22 11
1915 .. ..	27 11	28 3	27 6	29 9	29 8	28 11	28 4
1912 { 1st qt'r	20 9	19 9	21 11	22 0	26 0	21 10	21 4
1912 { 2nd "	21 10	21 5	21 11	22 11	28 2	22 11	22 3
1912 { 3rd "	23 11	23 2	22 1	23 10	27 4	24 8	23 9
1912 { 4th "	23 6	22 3	22 3	23 6	26 1	25 9	23 2
1913 { 1st "	22 9	20 9	20 9	22 5	25 6	23 2	22 0
1913 { 2nd "	23 2	20 10	21 2	22 11	26 0	23 9	22 4
1913 { 3rd "	22 7	20 5	20 10	22 4	25 0	23 5	21 10
1913 { 4th "	22 1	20 0	20 8	21 10	24 11	22 9	21 5
1914 { 1st "	23 0	20 7	20 11	22 11	24 11	23 3	22 1
1914 { 2nd "	23 3	22 4	21 2	25 0	25 11	24 7	23 2
1914 { 3rd "	23 1	22 0	21 8	24 7	26 9	24 3	23 0
1914 { 4th "	23 1	22 4	22 6	24 8	26 7	24 10	23 3
1915 { 1st "	24 7	23 9	23 11	26 4	28 5	25 10	24 8
1915 { 2nd "	25 9	27 8	26 4	30 2	30 2	28 3	27 3
1915 { 3rd "	30 0	31 8	29 0	32 0	30 11	30 10	31 1
1915 { 4th "	30 7	29 10	30 8	30 6	29 2	30 8	30 3

\* These results are based upon the regimen referred to. † Basis of Table.

(ii) *House Rent only*.—The following table gives similar particulars for *house rent only*, the average for the six towns in 1911 being again taken as the basis of the table (= 20s.):—

**Purchasing-Power of Money.—House Rent.**—Amount payable on the Average in each Year from 1901 to 1915 (4th Quarter) for House Rent in each Capital Town, compared with a Rent of £1 in 1911 in the Australian Capitals regarded as a whole.\*

Year.	Sydney	Melb'ne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1901 .. ..	17 3	14 8	9 9	12 7	16 0	13 4	15 1
1902 .. ..	17 3	14 11	9 10	12 7	15 11	13 5	15 2
1903 .. ..	17 4	14 11	10 1	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 3
1904 .. ..	17 5	15 3	10 2	12 7	16 0	13 6	15 4
1905 .. ..	17 10	15 5	10 5	14 0	14 9	13 7	15 8
1906 .. ..	17 11	15 8	10 6	15 3	14 4	13 9	15 11
1907 .. ..	18 4	16 1	11 6	16 3	13 8	14 2	16 4
1908 .. ..	18 7	16 7	12 4	17 5	13 7	14 7	16 10
1909 .. ..	19 2	16 10	13 3	18 10	13 4	15 0	17 5
1910 .. ..	19 10	18 4	14 0	20 4	13 11	15 6	18 5
1911 .. ..	21 10	19 5	15 4	22 3	16 3	16 1	20 0†
1912 .. ..	23 8	20 4	16 1	23 2	17 7	16 7	21 3
1913 .. ..	24 11	21 10	17 3	22 6	18 7	17 10	22 4
1914 .. ..	25 7	22 6	17 8	20 10	18 3	18 3	22 8
1915 .. ..	24 5	21 8	17 2	18 8	17 0	18 7	21 7
1912 { 1st qt'r	22 4	19 8	16 0	23 3	17 0	16 3	20 6
1912 { 2nd "	23 4	20 0	16 1	23 5	17 2	16 4	21 1
1912 { 3rd "	24 7	20 7	16 2	23 5	18 0	16 10	21 10
1912 { 4th "	24 4	20 11	16 0	22 11	18 3	16 11	21 7
1913 { 1st "	24 5	21 4	16 10	22 11	18 3	18 0	22 0
1913 { 2nd "	24 10	21 9	17 2	22 11	18 6	17 9	22 4
1913 { 3rd "	24 11	22 0	17 3	22 3	18 7	17 8	22 5
1913 { 4th "	25 6	22 1	17 10	21 10	18 11	18 0	22 8
1914 { 1st "	25 6	22 5	17 8	21 6	18 5	18 1	22 8
1914 { 2nd "	25 9	22 10	17 10	21 5	18 5	18 3	23 0
1914 { 3rd "	25 8	22 11	17 10	21 1	18 4	18 5	22 11
1914 { 4th "	25 5	21 10	17 4	19 3	17 11	18 6	22 2
1915 { 1st "	24 7	21 10	17 1	18 10	17 5	18 6	21 9
1915 { 2nd "	24 5	21 9	17 4	18 6	16 11	18 7	21 7
1915 { 3rd "	24 5	21 7	17 2	18 7	16 10	18 7	21 7
1915 { 4th "	24 3	21 7	17 2	18 7	16 10	18 7	21 6

\* These results are based upon the regimen referred to.

† Basis of Table.

**7. Monthly Fluctuations in Retail Prices of Food and Groceries, July, 1914, to February, 1916.**—The following table has been prepared in order to shew the variations in retail prices of food and groceries since July, 1914, the last month prior to the outbreak of war. Particulars for each town are given in the form of index-numbers for food and groceries in each of the months specified. In addition, the index-numbers for the whole of the year 1912 are given in the first column, and in the last column the percentage increase or decrease is shewn for each town in February, 1916, compared with July, 1914.

**RETAIL PRICES INDEX-NUMBERS (FOOD AND GROCERIES), FOR EACH OF THIRTY TOWNS FOR THE MONTHS SPECIFIED, WITH WEIGHTED AVERAGE FOR ALL TOWNS IN 1912 AS BASE (= 1000).**

Particulars.	1912.	1914.		1915.				1916.		Increase from July, 1914, to Feb. 1916.
	Base for Whole Year (= 1000)	July.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>										
Sydney .. ..	986	1,011	1,041	1,098	1,060	1,080	1,336	1,341	1,401	38.6
Newcastle .. ..	994	1,006	1,041	1,081	1,071	1,093	1,328	1,327	1,354	34.6
Broken Hill .. ..	1,186	1,287	1,260	1,283	1,313	1,320	1,520	1,523	1,536	19.3
Goulburn .. ..	990	1,037	1,068	1,080	1,060	1,074	1,323	1,318	1,353	30.5
Bathurst .. ..	950	962	1,007	1,026	1,038	1,045	1,263	1,255	1,298	34.9
*Weighted Average ..	995	1,022	1,050	1,103	1,071	1,090	1,342	1,346	1,400	37.0
<b>VICTORIA—</b>										
Melbourne .. ..	949	970	1,010	1,019	1,034	1,067	1,271	1,265	1,357	39.9
Ballarat .. ..	973	967	986	1,029	1,049	1,085	1,286	1,279	1,343	38.9
Bendigo .. ..	976	971	1,013	1,019	1,049	1,091	1,283	1,285	1,320	35.9
Geelong .. ..	952	955	1,015	1,003	1,038	1,059	1,267	1,258	1,339	40.2
Warrnambool .. ..	927	953	979	977	1,007	1,073	1,311	1,276	1,324	38.9
*Weighted Average ..	952	969	1,009	1,019	1,036	1,069	1,273	1,267	1,352	39.5
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>										
Brisbane .. ..	966	926	1,019	1,057	1,035	1,046	1,348	1,357	1,380	49.0
Toowoomba .. ..	964	912	1,050	1,071	1,074	1,086	1,372	1,363	1,379	51.2
Rockhampton .. ..	1,002	1,013	1,071	1,111	1,095	1,111	1,492	1,445	1,475	45.6
Charter Towers .. ..	1,134	1,092	1,225	1,250	1,206	1,2-7	1,524	1,484	1,470	3-6
Warwick .. ..	1,004	949	1,009	1,053	1,076	1,084	1,304	1,346	1,343	41.5
*Weighted Average ..	985	948	1,044	1,080	1,061	1,078	1,378	1,377	1,396	47.3
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>										
Adelaide .. ..	1,012	1,097	1,098	1,134	1,138	1,188	1,312	1,321	1,378	25.6
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo .. ..	1,012	1,079	1,095	1,138	1,155	1,201	1,342	1,350	1,411	30.8
Port Pirie .. ..	1,048	1,132	1,168	1,200	1,219	1,270	1,403	1,419	1,466	29.5
Mt. Gambier .. ..	904	933	981	1,001	1,030	1,099	1,245	1,250	1,311	40.5
Petersburg .. ..	1,018	1,175	1,148	1,165	1,169	1,224	1,316	1,327	1,436	22.2
*Weighted Average ..	1,011	1,093	1,098	1,134	1,140	1,190	1,316	1,325	1,383	26.5
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>										
Perth .. ..	1,179	1,175	1,179	1,206	1,239	1,290	1,246	1,282	1,334	13.5
Kalgoorlie and Boulder .. ..	1,471	1,460	1,526	1,517	1,532	1,548	1,566	1,556	1,616	10.7
Mid. Junc. & Guildford .. ..	1,209	1,188	1,217	1,251	1,306	1,317	1,275	1,281	1,358	14.3
Bunbury .. ..	1,231	1,244	1,265	1,260	1,307	1,337	1,358	1,363	1,436	15.4
Geraldton .. ..	1,237	1,268	1,323	1,374	1,385	1,440	1,419	1,431	1,476	16.4
*Weighted Average ..	1,243	1,238	1,258	1,278	1,308	1,350	1,321	1,344	1,400	13.1
<b>TASMANIA—</b>										
Hobart .. ..	1,044	1,063	1,122	1,114	1,136	1,152	1,329	1,332	1,443	35.7
Launceston .. ..	986	1,003	1,053	1,045	1,086	1,092	1,303	1,280	1,404	40.0
Zeehan .. ..	1,142	1,133	1,228	1,205	1,197	1,220	1,447	1,429	1,522	34.3
Beaconsfield .. ..	1,053	1,079	1,124	1,132	1,136	1,157	1,406	1,344	1,471	36.3
Queenstown .. ..	1,130	1,153	1,165	1,202	1,217	1,274	1,474	1,450	1,504	30.4
*Weighted Average ..	1,036	1,054	1,108	1,103	1,128	1,144	1,339	1,329	1,439	36.5
† Weighted Aver. for Cwth. †	1,000	1,021	1,057	1,088	1,084	1,113	1,318	1,319	1,383	35.5

\* Average for the five towns. † Average for thirty towns. ‡ Basis of Table, see Labour Report No. 5, pages 27 to 29.

NOTE.—Corresponding index-numbers for the months of August, 1914 to November, 1914, and April to November, 1915, inclusive, are given in Labour Bulletins, No. 9, p. 25, No. 10, p. 139, and No. 11, p. 219.

**8. Average Predominant Retail Prices and House Rents.**—Particulars of retail prices of the commodities included in the investigations as to variations in the purchasing of money, are collected monthly. The average prices in each of the capital towns for each month from July, 1914, to February, 1915, and from August, 1915, to February, 1916, inclusive, are given in the following tables. Corresponding particulars for March to July, 1915, were given in Labour Bulletin No. 10, pp. 140 to 145. Particulars of house rents are collected quarterly, and the weighted average rentals in the capital towns for the four quarters of 1915 as well as for the third and fourth quarters of 1914 are also given.



Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month from July 1914 to February 1916, inclusive.

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.						1915.						1916.		
		July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
SYDNEY.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread .. ..	2lbs.	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00	4.00	4.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Flour .. ..	25	33.29	36.64	39.64	36.14	36.93	42.50	42.39	43.06	61.50	61.33	61.11	44.50	44.50	44.50	44.50
Tea .. ..	lb.	16.71	16.71	16.71	16.71	16.71	16.71	15.78	15.78	18.56	18.56	18.89	18.89	18.89	18.89	18.89
Coffee .. ..	"	19.14	19.14	19.14	19.14	19.14	19.14	18.89	18.89	18.78	18.78	18.83	18.83	18.89	18.89	18.89
Sugar .. ..	"	2.82	2.79	2.79	2.79	2.79	2.79	2.75	2.75	3.00	2.97	3.00	2.97	2.94	3.00	3.36
Rice .. ..	"	3.14	3.14	3.14	3.11	3.11	3.11	2.97	3.00	2.97	2.97	2.97	3.00	2.92	3.08	3.08
Sago .. ..	"	2.86	2.86	2.93	2.86	2.86	2.86	2.78	2.78	3.03	2.97	2.94	2.89	2.89	2.89	2.89
Jam .. ..	"	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.88	4.61	4.58	4.69	4.78	4.78	5.13	5.09	4.89	4.89
Oatmeal .. ..	"	2.71	2.71	2.75	2.86	3.14	3.11	3.08	3.31	3.72	3.61	3.56	3.44	3.50	3.28	2.89
Raisins .. ..	"	6.79	6.79	6.79	6.79	6.79	6.79	6.56	6.56	7.11	7.11	7.22	7.22	7.33	7.44	7.44
Currants .. ..	"	7.29	7.29	7.29	7.36	7.29	7.29	6.89	6.89	7.78	7.89	8.11	8.33	9.22	9.17	9.39
Starch .. ..	"	5.57	5.57	5.57	5.57	5.57	5.57	5.50	5.50	5.69	5.75	5.72	5.78	5.78	5.78	5.83
Blue .. ..	doz sq.	8.86	8.86	8.86	8.79	8.86	8.86	9.06	9.17	9.22	9.22	9.22	9.28	9.28	9.28	9.22
Candles .. ..	lb.	7.14	7.21	7.21	7.21	7.27	7.36	7.33	7.33	7.58	7.33	7.36	7.31	7.28	7.44	7.61
Soap .. ..	"	3.32	3.32	3.32	3.36	3.32	3.32	3.19	3.19	3.22	3.22	3.17	3.00	3.19	3.06	3.31
Potatoes .. ..	14lbs.	13.13	14.38	13.88	14.25	15.38	16.50	19.53	12.75	20.63	20.50	26.63	30.75	32.50	32.75	33.00
Onions .. ..	lb.	1.56	1.56	2.06	2.13	2.00	2.06	2.13	2.00	1.75	1.63	1.63	1.50	1.25	1.13	1.38
Kerosene .. ..	gal.	13.58	13.58	13.58	13.43	13.36	13.36	14.25	12.92	14.53	14.47	14.61	14.64	14.56	15.69	15.44
Dairy Produce—																
Milk .. ..	quart.	5.00	5.20	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.60	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.00	6.00
Butter .. ..	lb.	15.07	15.93	14.57	14.00	14.00	14.36	15.06	15.61	22.44	17.67	17.17	17.00	18.11	15.56	16.89
Cheese .. ..	"	12.11	12.03	11.57	10.57	9.58	9.72	8.94	9.39	13.89	13.89	13.89	13.89	12.72	12.61	12.00
Eggs .. ..	doz.	22.44	11.63	11.62	11.07	10.62	14.67	21.89	19.78	18.56	15.44	16.06	17.22	18.94	19.83	22.50
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	12.93	13.21	13.64	13.36	13.36	13.43	13.50	13.44	15.17	15.78	16.94	16.94	17.00	17.11	17.11
" Shoulder .. ..	"	7.93	8.29	8.64	8.14	8.29	8.50	8.61	8.78	10.72	11.28	12.00	12.94	12.61	12.83	13.00
Ham .. ..	"	13.29	13.79	13.86	13.93	14.07	14.57	14.78	14.33	15.11	15.61	17.67	18.13	18.31	18.56	18.63
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin .. ..	lb.	6.75	6.83	6.75	6.80	6.85	6.95	7.70	7.50	11.75	11.78	11.83	11.25	11.19	11.67	11.78
" Ribs .. ..	"	5.60	5.67	5.60	5.65	5.65	5.70	6.60	6.44	10.38	10.50	10.28	9.63	9.50	10.39	10.33
" Flank .. ..	"	4.90	4.89	4.80	4.85	4.75	4.95	5.94	5.88	9.72	9.83	9.56	9.31	9.19	9.67	9.67
" Shin .. ..	"	3.94	4.00	4.00	3.89	3.78	3.89	4.80	4.67	8.44	8.61	8.50	7.88	8.00	8.33	8.44
Steak, Rump .. ..	"	9.15	9.39	9.35	9.40	9.30	9.45	10.40	10.33	14.88	14.56	14.33	13.63	13.63	14.67	15.00
" Shoulder .. ..	"	4.90	5.00	4.95	4.90	4.85	5.10	5.90	5.78	9.69	9.83	9.72	9.25	9.13	9.67	9.67
" Stewing .. ..	"	5.33	5.25	5.22	5.00	5.11	5.17	5.25	5.17	9.31	9.28	9.11	8.81	8.49	9.06	9.06
Beef, Corned Roll ..	"	5.25	5.28	5.30	5.35	5.35	5.50	6.50	6.44	9.94	9.89	9.72	9.50	9.38	9.89	9.89
" Brisket, with bone	"	3.89	3.88	3.89	3.89	3.78	3.83	4.56	4.57	7.75	7.57	7.56	7.29	7.14	7.81	7.69
" without .. ..	"	4.60	4.78	4.70	4.70	4.50	4.85	5.75	5.67	9.38	9.33	9.17	8.75	8.63	9.17	9.22
Mutton, Leg .. ..	"	4.95	4.94	4.95	4.95	4.85	4.95	5.50	5.39	8.88	7.94	7.56	7.25	7.31	7.72	8.22
" Shoulder .. ..	"	4.20	4.22	4.20	4.20	4.10	4.15	4.80	4.61	7.81	7.00	6.50	6.19	6.22	6.33	6.83
" Loin .. ..	"	5.60	5.83	5.75	5.70	5.75	5.85	6.10	5.89	9.69	8.56	7.83	7.56	7.63	8.00	8.56
" Neck .. ..	"	4.50	4.56	4.60	4.55	4.45	4.60	4.90	4.78	8.25	7.44	6.75	6.38	6.44	6.61	7.17
Chops, Loin .. ..	"	6.40	6.61	6.45	6.55	6.30	6.45	6.95	7.00	10.31	9.25	8.58	8.88	8.94	8.83	9.44
" Leg .. ..	"	5.85	5.94	6.06	5.90	5.85	6.00	6.55	6.44	9.69	8.78	8.39	8.44	8.31	8.56	8.89
" Neck .. ..	"	4.90	4.89	4.85	4.80	4.70	4.85	5.60	5.56	8.94	8.06	7.39	7.19	7.19	7.44	7.83
Pork, Leg .. ..	"	9.45	9.67	9.45	9.55	9.45	9.50	9.95	9.83	12.00	11.17	11.61	11.75	11.75	12.44	12.33
" Loin .. ..	"	10.75	11.06	10.75	10.70	10.60	10.80	10.80	10.72	12.63	12.28	12.50	12.56	12.44	12.67	12.33
" Belly .. ..	"	8.95	9.33	9.20	9.15	9.20	9.30	9.27	9.19	11.38	10.72	11.22	11.44	11.31	12.33	12.33
" Chops .. ..	"	11.15	11.39	11.15	11.10	11.00	11.10	11.10	11.11	14.25	13.22	12.89	12.88	12.88	12.67	12.33

NOTE.—Prices for March, April, May, June and July 1915 are given in Labour Bulletin No. 10, pp. 140 to 145.

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month from July 1914 to February 1916, inclusive—(continued).

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.						1915.						1916.		
		July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
MELBOURNE.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread .. .. .	2lbs.	3.00	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00	4.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.00	4.00	4.00
Flour .. .. .	25 "	32.10	35.20	36.15	36.45	37.20	45.00	46.95	55.85	58.65	58.20	58.35	56.70	49.65	47.65	47.35
Tea .. .. .	lb.	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	14.80	17.00	17.10	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30	17.30
Coffee .. .. .	"	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.60	18.80	18.80	18.80	18.80	18.80	18.80	18.80	19.00	19.00
Sugar .. .. .	"	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.05	3.50
Rice .. .. .	"	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.85	2.90	2.95
Sago .. .. .	"	2.35	2.45	2.50	2.55	2.50	2.45	2.55	2.50	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.75	2.75
Jam .. .. .	"	3.95	3.95	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.05	4.05	4.20	4.23	4.23	4.25	4.35	4.40	4.40	4.43
Oatmeal .. .. .	"	2.20	2.40	2.50	2.58	2.75	2.90	3.10	3.45	3.55	3.40	3.40	3.38	3.08	2.68	2.68
Raisins .. .. .	"	6.30	6.45	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.30	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.72	6.72	7.05	7.85
Currants .. .. .	"	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.25	6.25	6.40	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.30	8.40	8.45	8.45
Starch .. .. .	"	5.40	5.40	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.45	5.50	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65
Blue .. .. .	doz. sq.	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.13	6.13	6.13	6.13	6.15	6.23	6.73
Candles .. .. .	lb.	6.65	6.65	6.80	6.80	6.80	6.65	6.75	6.75	6.85	6.85	6.75	6.65	6.80	7.00	7.15
Soap .. .. .	"	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.56	3.61	3.68	3.68	3.63	3.65	3.68	3.65	3.80
Potatoes .. .. .	14lbs.	9.21	11.00	10.57	10.14	12.64	14.29	12.00	8.21	15.00	14.86	22.50	25.14	21.36	21.86	23.57
Onions .. .. .	lb.	1.14	1.14	1.71	1.86	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.64	1.50	1.29	0.93	0.93	1.00	0.86	0.86
Kerosene .. .. .	gal.	12.61	12.72	12.94	12.86	12.80	12.73	12.75	12.75	14.28	14.35	14.40	14.50	14.48	15.00	15.18
Dairy Produce—																
Milk .. .. .	quart.	5.33	4.67	4.33	4.33	4.67	5.25	4.67	4.83	6.17	5.25	5.17	5.17	5.17	5.17	5.83
Butter .. .. .	lb.	15.05	14.95	14.05	14.00	13.90	13.90	14.75	15.80	26.30	19.25	18.70	16.20	17.80	15.70	18.65
Cheese .. .. .	"	10.93	11.22	11.10	10.92	10.86	10.86	11.15	11.15	15.80	15.20	16.50	16.40	15.80	15.20	15.70
Eggs .. .. .	doz.	18.55	12.00	11.69	11.60	11.65	17.10	14.20	17.90	21.00	17.25	17.65	17.80	19.10	17.50	22.20
Bacon, Middle .. .. .	lb.	13.65	13.65	13.65	13.65	13.65	13.65	13.65	13.75	19.00	19.60	20.95	21.90	18.85	18.60	19.80
Ham, Shoulder .. .. .	"	8.44	8.44	8.44	8.56	8.61	8.44	8.75	8.75	13.57	13.33	14.83	16.33	13.50	13.67	14.67
Ham .. .. .	"	14.17	14.17	14.17	14.28	14.28	14.35	14.39	14.28	18.56	19.00	20.19	20.88	18.38	18.88	19.63
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin .. .. .	lb.	7.20	7.05	6.80	6.95	6.70	6.63	7.50	7.25	12.90	12.30	11.00	9.75	9.80	9.90	10.15
Beef, Ribs .. .. .	"	6.00	5.85	5.65	5.85	5.60	5.56	6.33	6.15	11.40	11.00	9.60	8.70	8.65	8.85	9.15
Beef, Flank .. .. .	"	5.40	5.30	5.15	5.20	5.10	5.00	5.50	5.50	10.35	9.55	8.85	8.20	8.20	8.65	8.70
Beef, Shin .. .. .	"	4.20	4.10	4.00	4.05	4.00	4.00	4.8	4.15	9.60	9.05	8.30	7.70	7.30	7.35	7.65
Steak, Rump .. .. .	"	9.60	9.30	9.20	9.30	9.20	9.13	9.3	9.20	15.10	14.60	13.80	12.80	12.80	13.20	13.50
Steak, Shoulder .. .. .	"	5.45	5.30	5.20	5.25	5.15	5.13	5.67	5.65	11.05	10.80	10.10	9.35	9.10	9.25	9.45
Beef, Stewing .. .. .	"	6.05	6.05	5.90	5.95	5.70	5.56	5.11	4.95	10.30	10.00	9.30	8.45	8.30	8.35	8.60
Beef, Corned Roll .. .. .	"	5.75	5.70	5.70	5.75	5.65	5.75	6.06	6.05	11.75	11.15	10.15	9.40	9.40	9.65	9.80
Beef, Brisket, with bone .. .. .	"	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.45	3.38	3.78	3.70	7.75	7.65	6.85	6.35	6.35	6.75	6.80
Beef, Brisket, without .. .. .	"	4.80	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.70	4.81	5.11	5.05	9.85	9.55	8.40	8.10	8.15	8.35	8.40
Mutton, Leg .. .. .	"	5.45	5.50	5.20	5.30	5.05	4.94	5.61	5.45	9.50	8.75	8.00	7.70	7.65	7.80	8.80
Mutton, Shoulder .. .. .	"	4.15	4.30	4.05	4.10	3.95	3.75	4.39	4.25	8.10	7.40	6.90	6.45	6.35	6.25	7.05
Mutton, Loin .. .. .	"	5.10	5.20	4.95	4.95	4.90	4.81	5.44	5.25	8.75	8.45	7.60	6.80	7.30	7.45	8.25
Mutton, Neck .. .. .	"	4.10	4.20	3.95	3.95	3.85	3.69	4.22	4.00	7.95	7.25	6.55	6.10	6.15	6.30	7.10
Chops, Loin .. .. .	"	6.15	6.20	6.05	6.05	5.95	5.88	6.50	6.40	10.10	9.50	9.05	8.55	8.50	8.55	9.10
Chops, Leg .. .. .	"	6.00	6.00	5.75	5.75	5.60	5.56	6.28	6.05	9.95	9.20	9.00	8.60	8.65	8.65	9.45
Chops, Neck .. .. .	"	4.40	4.55	4.35	4.40	4.25	4.19	4.56	4.35	8.35	7.70	7.05	6.70	6.60	6.70	7.35
Pork, Leg .. .. .	"	8.80	8.70	8.78	8.65	8.40	8.19	8.50	8.25	13.88	12.90	12.88	12.90	12.35	13.00	13.44
Pork, Loin .. .. .	"	9.65	9.55	9.67	9.50	9.25	9.00	9.44	8.95	14.75	14.00	13.63	14.30	13.70	14.00	14.33
Pork, Belly .. .. .	"	9.30	9.30	9.44	9.30	9.10	8.81	9.28	8.90	14.38	13.80	13.75	14.20	13.30	14.00	14.33
Pork, Chops .. .. .	"	9.90	9.85	10.00	9.90	9.65	9.50	9.78	9.50	15.25	14.80	15.00	14.90	14.70	15.44	15.67

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month from July 1914 to February 1916, inclusive—(continued).

ARTICLE.	UNIT.	1914.						1915.						1916.		
		July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
BRISBANE.																
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread .. .. .	2lbs.	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00	4.50	4.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Flour .. .. .	25 "	32.94	36.75	37.00	36.00	38.17	43.93	46.95	55.85	68.45	70.36	70.23	71.05	47.45	47.40	47.80
Tea .. .. .	lb.	17.00	17.25	17.00	17.00	17.00	13.71	14.80	14.80	19.09	19.00	19.00	19.00	18.73	19.20	19.50
Coffee .. .. .	"	20.33	20.13	20.56	20.56	20.56	19.29	18.80	18.80	20.09	20.09	20.36	20.36	20.36	20.30	20.60
Sugar .. .. .	"	2.50	2.50	2.53	2.53	2.50	2.75	2.75	2.75	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.50
Rice .. .. .	"	2.61	2.63	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.57	2.85	2.85	2.59	2.59	2.59	2.59	2.59	2.60	2.65
Sago .. .. .	"	2.22	2.19	2.28	2.33	2.33	2.21	2.55	2.50	2.82	2.73	2.73	2.68	2.68	2.65	2.65
Jam .. .. .	"	4.05	4.22	4.17	4.17	4.17	4.07	4.05	4.20	4.32	4.39	4.45	4.50	4.59	4.68	4.93
Oatmeal .. .. .	"	2.50	2.28	2.44	2.42	2.50	2.64	3.10	3.45	3.77	3.80	3.75	3.75	3.45	2.80	2.75
Raisins .. .. .	"	6.61	6.56	6.61	6.50	6.50	6.64	6.40	6.30	6.41	6.91	7.14	7.23	7.18	7.20	7.20
Currants .. .. .	"	7.11	7.13	6.56	6.67	6.50	6.50	6.25	6.40	7.50	7.48	7.50	7.82	8.45	8.65	8.65
Starch .. .. .	"	5.61	5.69	5.67	5.67	5.61	5.64	5.45	5.50	5.77	5.82	5.82	5.82	5.82	5.85	5.85
Blue .. .. .	doz. sq.	8.61	8.75	8.63	8.67	8.72	8.93	6.33	6.33	8.91	8.91	8.91	8.91	8.91	8.90	9.00
Candles .. .. .	lb.	6.94	7.06	6.94	6.94	6.94	6.93	6.75	6.75	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.91	7.18	7.35	7.50
Soap .. .. .	"	2.33	2.28	2.31	2.31	2.44	2.36	3.56	3.61	3.18	3.20	3.20	3.23	3.55	3.60	3.70
Potatoes .. .. .	14lbs.	14.78	14.94	15.17	16.83	12.44	18.43	12.00	8.21	22.73	23.18	28.73	34.05	35.59	30.50	30.33
Onions .. .. .	lb.	1.50	1.50	1.72	1.94	1.83	2.07	1.79	1.64	1.55	1.55	1.64	1.41	1.18	1.15	1.25
Kerosene .. .. .	gal.	14.00	14.36	14.25	14.25	14.31	14.29	12.75	12.75	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.05	14.20	14.85
Dairy Produce—																
Milk .. .. .	quart.	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.67	4.50	4.67	4.83	5.83	5.88	5.75	5.92	5.92	6.08	6.08
Butter .. .. .	lb.	13.22	14.00	13.11	13.33	13.22	13.71	14.75	15.80	23.00	16.86	17.00	17.00	19.00	15.40	16.55
Cheese .. .. .	"	10.75	11.10	10.42	10.42	10.20	10.03	11.15	11.15	14.45	12.41	13.55	13.45	13.45	13.00	12.90
Eggs .. .. .	doz.	17.56	10.18	10.53	10.28	8.89	13.28	14.20	17.90	16.91	13.64	15.08	16.18	24.45	21.10	24.90
Bacon, Middle .. .. .	lb.	10.89	10.94	11.11	11.00	11.00	11.21	13.65	13.75	14.64	16.55	17.73	17.91	18.30	19.50	19.70
" Shoulder .. .. .	"	7.33	7.44	7.67	7.78	7.78	7.93	8.75	8.75	10.91	11.82	13.18	13.55	13.64	14.70	14.40
Ham .. .. .	"	14.83	14.88	14.89	14.83	15.78	15.79	14.39	14.28	15.68	16.73	17.00	17.41	17.27	18.25	18.40
Meat—																
Beef Sirloin .. .. .	lb.	5.14	5.56	6.33	6.50	6.50	6.88	7.50	7.25	8.15	8.20	9.00	8.75	8.90	9.44	9.00
" ribs .. .. .	"	3.83	4.36	5.25	5.42	5.42	5.56	6.33	6.15	6.50	6.60	7.35	7.00	6.95	7.56	7.25
" Flank .. .. .	"	3.88	4.44	5.25	5.38	5.38	5.50	5.50	5.50	7.06	7.17	7.89	7.72	7.56	8.63	8.39
" Shin .. .. .	"	3.06	3.33	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.28	4.15	5.45	5.55	5.90	5.90	6.00	6.22	6.10
Steak, Rump .. .. .	"	6.89	7.61	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.38	9.33	9.20	10.10	10.13	11.30	10.90	10.95	11.61	11.45
" Shoulder .. .. .	"	4.06	4.72	5.83	5.94	5.89	6.25	5.67	5.65	8.00	8.05	8.95	8.75	8.70	9.44	9.20
" Stewing .. .. .	"	4.11	4.78	5.83	5.94	5.89	6.25	5.11	4.95	8.00	8.05	8.95	8.70	8.65	9.44	9.20
Beef, Corned Roll .. .. .	"	4.86	5.39	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.38	6.06	6.05	7.75	7.80	8.65	8.35	8.50	9.06	8.95
" Brisket, with bone .. .. .	"	3.17	3.50	3.89	3.94	3.94	4.25	3.78	3.70	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.11	5.65
" without .. .. .	"	4.22	5.17	5.06	5.00	5.00	5.38	5.11	5.05	6.44	6.50	4.69	5.17	5.39	6.63	7.22
Mutton, Leg .. .. .	"	5.17	5.56	6.00	5.33	5.28	5.88	5.61	5.45	7.55	7.35	7.90	7.35	8.25	9.56	9.40
" Shoulder .. .. .	"	3.61	4.06	4.50	4.11	4.13	4.19	4.39	4.25	5.90	5.90	6.30	5.70	6.50	7.89	7.50
" Loin .. .. .	"	5.17	5.50	5.94	5.50	5.61	6.00	5.44	5.25	7.65	7.60	8.15	7.75	8.40	10.00	9.75
" Neck .. .. .	"	4.72	5.06	5.17	4.94	5.00	5.31	4.22	4.00	6.85	6.70	7.25	7.30	7.60	8.78	8.95
Chops, Loin .. .. .	"	5.61	6.00	6.06	5.61	5.67	6.13	6.50	6.40	8.20	8.15	8.65	8.30	9.20	10.78	10.55
" Leg .. .. .	"	5.61	6.00	6.06	5.61	5.67	6.13	6.28	6.05	8.20	8.15	8.65	8.30	9.20	10.78	10.60
" Neck .. .. .	"	5.61	6.00	6.06	5.61	5.67	6.13	4.56	4.35	8.20	8.10	8.60	8.20	9.00	10.67	10.45
Pork, Leg .. .. .	"	8.50	8.81	8.50	8.75	8.75	8.86	8.50	8.25	9.11	9.67	10.33	10.80	10.78	11.19	11.25
" Loin .. .. .	"	8.44	8.81	8.88	8.88	9.00	9.00	9.44	8.95	9.11	9.67	10.28	10.80	10.89	11.31	10.38
" Belly .. .. .	"	7.56	7.69	7.88	7.75	7.94	7.93	9.28	8.90	8.06	8.50	9.17	9.75	9.61	9.94	9.88
" Chops .. .. .	"	8.89	9.31	9.25	9.13	9.00	9.00	9.78	9.50	9.56	10.00	10.78	11.25	11.28	12.06	12.13

See footnote p. 346

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month from July 1914 to February 1916, inclusive—(continued).

		1914.							1915.							1916.	
ARTICLE.	UNIT.																
		July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan	Feb.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	
ADELAIDE.																	
Groceries, etc —		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread .. ..	2lbs.	3.50	3.00	3.00	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00	4.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.50	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.50
Flour .. ..	25 "	35.55	39.00	38.10	38.10	37.80	42.88	48.75	57.25	64.70	64.20	64.20	57.22	52.20	48.50	46.95	
Tea .. ..	lb.	16.20	16.40	16.30	16.20	16.10	16.13	16.00	16.20	18.00	18.20	18.20	18.20	17.40	17.90	18.20	
Coffee .. ..	"	19.10	19.30	19.20	19.20	19.20	19.75	19.10	19.10	19.80	19.70	19.70	19.70	19.70	19.60	19.80	
Sugar .. ..	"	2.80	2.80	2.75	2.75	2.73	2.75	2.70	2.73	2.98	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.10	3.40	
Rice .. ..	"	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.44	3.35	3.35	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.33	3.35	3.35	
Sago .. ..	"	2.85	3.00	2.90	2.85	2.85	2.88	2.95	3.05	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.10	3.15	3.15	3.10	
Jam .. ..	"	3.73	3.73	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.78	3.73	3.93	4.25	4.30	4.35	4.48	4.60	4.68	4.63	
Oatmeal .. ..	"	2.40	2.60	2.65	2.68	2.75	2.88	3.58	3.85	4.10	4.05	4.05	4.00	3.53	3.18	2.95	
Raisins .. ..	"	6.20	6.25	6.25	6.20	6.25	6.31	6.25	6.25	6.85	6.85	7.05	7.15	7.45	7.20	7.15	
Starch .. ..	"	6.20	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.30	6.25	6.15	6.15	6.85	7.00	7.78	8.15	9.35	9.00	9.06	
Blue .. ..	doz. sq.	5.55	5.60	5.65	5.65	5.60	5.69	5.60	5.65	5.60	5.70	5.70	5.65	5.85	5.75	5.75	
Candles .. ..	lb.	9.95	10.00	10.45	10.25	10.35	10.31	10.15	10.45	10.05	10.15	10.15	10.15	10.15	9.15	9.15	
Soap .. ..	"	7.20	7.30	7.35	7.35	7.33	7.56	7.15	7.25	7.55	7.60	7.60	7.55	8.00	7.90	8.05	
Potatoes .. ..	"	3.13	3.18	3.20	3.18	3.18	3.28	3.19	3.19	3.50	3.50	3.43	3.38	3.53	3.40	3.48	
Onions .. ..	14lbs.	12.00	12.75	13.63	13.44	15.06	16.33	17.38	12.88	19.81	19.63	21.50	26.44	22.38	25.25	29.06	
Kerosene .. ..	gal.	1.57	1.57	1.79	2.14	2.13	2.50	2.25	2.06	1.75	1.81	1.81	1.56	1.25	0.94	1.06	
		14.70	14.65	14.75	14.65	14.75	14.94	14.85	14.85	14.95	14.95	14.95	14.95	14.95	15.75	16.25	
Dairy Produce—																	
Milk .. ..	quart.	5.80	5.50	5.67	5.80	5.80	5.80	6.00	6.00	5.92	5.00	5.25	5.20	5.20	5.17	5.17	
Butter .. ..	lb.	17.05	16.80	16.10	15.75	15.50	16.50	17.05	17.80	24.50	17.50	17.50	16.25	17.95	18.15	20.50	
Cheese .. ..	"	11.15	11.32	11.02	10.95	10.81	11.50	10.50	10.60	16.25	15.55	15.35	14.30	14.10	13.60	13.70	
Eggs .. ..	doz.	16.32	9.87	9.91	9.78	8.96	12.54	11.70	15.50	15.55	15.40	15.65	17.85	16.10	13.05	16.35	
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	13.65	13.90	13.90	13.80	13.70	14.00	13.60	13.80	17.10	17.30	18.50	19.60	18.70	18.00	19.10	
Shoulder .. ..	"	9.25	9.10	9.20	9.10	9.15	9.56	9.15	9.55	12.85	12.90	14.00	14.44	13.80	13.20	14.30	
Ham .. ..	"	14.80	14.80	14.70	14.80	14.80	15.50	14.80	15.00	17.40	17.90	18.80	19.40	19.20	18.50	19.40	
Meat—																	
Beef, Sirloin ..	lb.	7.53	7.41	7.36	7.33	7.18	7.18	7.45	7.53	10.31	10.25	9.89	9.72	9.61	9.55	9.90	
" Ribs .. ..	"	6.55	6.44	6.39	6.33	6.20	6.20	6.45	6.55	9.31	9.25	8.78	8.72	8.61	8.50	8.80	
" Flank .. ..	"	5.95	6.19	5.94	6.06	5.70	5.70	5.78	5.89	9.25	9.43	9.00	8.83	8.83	8.94	9.28	
" Shin .. ..	"	5.80	5.75	5.78	5.44	5.45	5.45	5.40	5.50	7.75	7.75	7.89	7.78	7.78	8.00	8.13	
Steak, Rump ..	"	10.00	9.88	9.78	9.78	9.50	9.50	9.70	9.80	12.50	12.50	12.22	12.11	12.11	12.20	12.80	
" Shoulder ..	"	7.10	6.88	6.89	6.50	6.40	6.40	6.60	6.70	10.06	9.94	9.56	9.33	9.33	9.40	9.60	
" Stewing ..	"	7.15	7.06	7.06	6.72	6.50	6.50	6.60	6.70	9.69	9.50	9.33	9.11	9.11	9.05	9.40	
Beef, Corned Roll ..	"	7.40	7.39	7.28	7.28	7.10	7.10	7.15	7.30	9.69	9.69	9.56	9.50	9.50	9.45	10.00	
" Brisket, with bone ..	"	5.50	5.25	5.25	5.58	5.30	5.30	5.40	5.40	7.75	7.75	7.60	7.50	7.50	7.42	7.75	
" without ..	"	6.35	6.31	6.28	6.31	6.10	6.00	6.20	6.30	8.69	8.69	8.56	8.50	8.50	8.45	8.90	
Mutton, Leg ..	"	6.75	6.75	6.72	6.56	6.40	6.35	6.65	6.70	9.19	8.88	8.61	8.61	8.61	8.75	9.20	
" Shoulder ..	"	5.75	5.75	5.72	5.56	5.45	5.40	5.65	5.70	8.31	7.94	7.61	7.56	7.56	7.75	8.30	
" Loin .. ..	"	6.85	6.69	6.67	6.61	6.50	6.45	6.50	6.55	9.19	9.00	8.67	8.67	8.67	8.65	9.05	
" Neck .. ..	"	5.50	5.31	5.56	5.39	5.20	5.15	5.15	5.25	7.88	7.50	7.33	7.33	7.22	7.05	8.10	
Chops, Loin ..	"	7.55	7.50	7.33	6.89	6.85	6.85	7.05	7.15	9.75	9.50	9.33	9.11	9.11	9.20	9.80	
" Leg .. ..	"	7.70	7.75	7.78	7.44	7.45	7.55	7.55	7.65	10.25	10.00	9.89	9.67	9.67	9.80	10.20	
" Neck .. ..	"	6.50	6.50	6.33	6.00	5.85	5.85	5.95	5.95	8.75	8.75	8.56	8.33	8.44	8.30	8.60	
Pork, Leg .. ..	"	9.35	9.44	9.39	9.22	9.05	9.15	9.15	9.25	12.31	12.31	12.31	12.63	12.50	13.20	13.70	
" Loin .. ..	"	10.18	10.22	10.19	9.89	9.78	9.78	9.90	9.88	13.75	13.63	13.63	14.00	13.50	14.00	14.50	
" Belly .. ..	"	10.00	10.13	10.11	9.89	9.70	9.70	9.70	9.70	13.75	13.63	13.63	13.63	13.50	13.90	14.70	
" Chops .. ..	"	10.40	10.38	10.44	10.22	10.10	10.10	10.20	10.30	13.88	13.63	13.63	13.63	13.51	14.30	14.90	

PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND COST OF LIVING.

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Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month from July 1914 to February 1916, inclusive—(continued).

ARTICLE.	UNIT	1914.						1915.						1916.		
		July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
		PERTH AND FREMANTLE.														
Groceries, etc.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread .. .. .	2lbs.	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00	4.00	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.00	5.00	4.50
Flour .. .. .	25 "	32.33	35.57	35.63	35.57	35.81	41.06	47.00	54.38	65.00	64.67	64.67	60.00	49.80	48.60	48.45
Tea .. .. .	lb.	15.89	16.00	16.00	15.88	15.88	15.88	15.89	15.88	17.89	18.11	18.33	17.90	17.70	17.60	17.60
Coffee .. .. .	"	18.33	18.00	18.00	18.38	18.13	18.00	19.22	19.38	19.22	19.22	19.22	19.10	19.10	19.00	19.00
Sugar .. .. .	"	2.75	2.96	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	2.78	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.10	3.50
Rice .. .. .	"	2.83	2.93	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.92	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.90	2.90	2.90	2.90
Sago .. .. .	"	2.67	2.64	2.63	2.56	2.50	2.50	2.61	2.56	2.89	2.94	2.94	2.75	2.75	2.70	2.75
Jam .. .. .	"	4.19	4.14	4.19	4.22	4.19	4.19	4.19	4.22	4.50	4.61	4.56	4.55	4.75	4.85	4.93
Oatmeal .. .. .	"	2.44	2.64	2.63	2.63	2.75	2.97	3.22	3.53	3.97	3.89	3.78	3.80	3.40	2.85	2.80
Raisins .. .. .	"	6.94	6.79	6.69	7.06	6.69	6.56	6.94	7.19	7.39	7.28	7.17	7.20	7.85	7.80	7.70
Currants .. .. .	"	6.44	6.50	6.44	6.56	6.19	6.38	6.39	6.44	6.89	7.00	7.00	7.30	9.00	9.20	9.35
Starch .. .. .	"	5.89	5.86	5.94	5.88	5.88	5.88	5.89	5.88	5.78	5.78	5.78	5.85	5.90	5.85	5.85
Blue .. .. .	doz. sq.	10.89	10.71	10.88	11.56	10.75	10.88	10.81	10.75	10.83	10.83	10.83	10.80	10.75	10.65	10.75
Candles .. .. .	lb.	7.50	7.67	7.38	7.56	7.25	7.25	7.00	7.56	7.67	7.67	7.94	7.95	8.25	8.25	8.25
Soap .. .. .	"	2.78	2.86	2.88	2.75	2.75	2.88	2.92	2.92	2.94	2.92	2.94	3.00	3.00	2.98	2.98
Potatoes .. .. .	14lbs.	20.13	20.67	18.14	20.14	23.57	21.00	17.25	19.14	24.63	26.13	23.75	20.67	17.56	24.89	33.00
Onions .. .. .	lb.	1.64	1.58	1.71	2.00	2.33	2.14	2.06	2.00	1.63	1.66	1.66	1.61	1.53	1.44	1.33
Kerosene .. .. .	gal.	14.42	14.64	14.88	14.78	14.53	14.53	14.06	13.97	14.39	14.39	14.03	14.20	14.20	14.50	15.08
Dairy Produce—																
Milk .. .. .	quart.	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.33	6.50	7.00	6.67	6.75	6.83	6.67	6.58	6.58	6.58	6.88	6.70
Butter .. .. .	lb.	15.78	15.86	15.38	15.22	15.13	15.00	15.33	15.63	26.89	21.22	19.67	17.80	18.60	17.80	19.90
Cheese .. .. .	"	11.25	11.07	10.75	10.38	10.50	10.16	10.00	10.38	17.00	16.44	15.89	15.10	14.40	14.40	14.70
Eggs .. .. .	doz.	20.59	11.04	10.18	10.23	11.26	12.88	18.56	22.38	17.89	13.00	14.67	16.70	16.70	17.10	20.90
Bacon, Middle .. .. .	lb.	14.11	13.86	13.75	14.00	13.88	14.00	13.89	14.13	16.44	17.63	19.67	20.90	18.10	17.50	18.56
Bacon, Shoulder .. .. .	"	8.89	8.86	8.88	8.81	8.50	8.81	8.78	9.00	10.22	10.69	12.00	13.80	11.80	12.00	12.22
Ham .. .. .	"	15.44	15.14	15.38	15.50	15.63	15.75	15.44	15.50	17.56	18.63	20.67	21.70	19.35	18.80	19.67
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin .. .. .	lb.	7.88	8.17	8.25	7.83	8.00	7.83	8.50	8.75	7.40	7.40	7.30	7.30	7.30	7.22	7.27
" Ribs .. .. .	"	6.75	7.00	7.13	6.67	6.86	6.67	7.38	7.57	6.25	6.15	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.11	6.18
" Flank .. .. .	"	5.75	5.83	6.00	5.67	5.93	6.00	6.75	6.63	6.25	6.20	6.05	6.25	5.75	6.00	5.86
" Shin .. .. .	"	5.88	6.17	6.13	5.83	5.71	6.00	6.38	6.50	5.70	5.80	5.60	5.70	5.40	5.61	5.59
Steak, Rump .. .. .	"	11.38	12.00	11.88	11.67	11.43	11.67	12.13	13.00	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	11.00	10.78	11.09
" Shoulder .. .. .	"	7.25	7.50	7.38	7.17	7.29	7.17	8.25	8.25	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.65	6.67	6.73
" Stewing .. .. .	"	6.75	7.17	6.88	6.83	6.57	7.00	7.50	7.75	6.20	6.20	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.11	6.18
Beef, Corned Roll .. .. .	"	6.88	7.17	7.13	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.75	8.13	6.60	6.60	6.60	6.70	6.60	6.56	6.45
" Brisket, with bone .. .. .	"	4.25	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.57	4.50	5.50	5.50	4.35	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.25	4.33	4.36
" " without .. .. .	"	6.00	6.17	6.00	6.17	6.14	6.17	6.88	7.00	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.60	5.50	5.56	5.36
Mutton, Leg .. .. .	"	9.00	8.67	8.63	8.00	8.14	8.17	8.38	8.38	8.20	8.10	8.10	7.90	7.80	7.78	7.73
" Shoulder .. .. .	"	7.25	7.17	7.13	6.83	6.71	7.00	7.13	7.19	7.30	7.20	7.20	7.00	6.50	6.67	6.73
" Loin .. .. .	"	8.00	7.83	8.00	7.83	7.86	7.83	8.00	8.25	8.20	8.10	8.00	7.90	7.80	7.67	7.73
" Neck .. .. .	"	6.75	6.83	6.75	6.50	6.29	6.50	6.50	6.75	6.70	6.70	6.60	6.50	6.20	6.11	6.09
Chops, Loin .. .. .	"	8.88	9.00	8.75	8.33	8.29	8.50	8.50	8.63	8.40	8.30	8.20	8.10	8.00	7.89	8.00
" Leg .. .. .	"	9.00	9.00	8.63	8.33	8.29	8.33	8.50	8.63	8.60	8.50	8.40	8.30	8.33	8.11	8.27
" Neck .. .. .	"	7.13	7.33	7.25	7.00	6.86	7.17	6.88	7.00	7.00	7.00	6.90	6.80	6.60	6.67	6.54
Pork, Leg .. .. .	"	10.50	10.83	10.50	9.83	9.71	9.83	9.50	9.38	10.10	10.10	10.20	10.20	9.90	10.67	10.54
" Loin .. .. .	"	10.50	10.83	10.50	9.83	9.71	9.83	9.63	9.63	10.20	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.10	9.44	10.45
" Belly .. .. .	"	9.63	10.00	9.75	9.33	9.29	9.33	9.25	9.13	9.60	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.30	9.67	9.73
" Chops .. .. .	"	10.88	10.83	10.75	10.17	10.14	10.17	10.00	10.00	10.60	10.50	10.60	10.90	10.50	11.11	11.00

See footnote p. 346.

Average Predominant Retail Prices in each Capital Town on the 15th of each Month from July 1914 to February 1916, inclusive—(continued).

ARTICLE.		UNIT.	1914.						1915.						1916	
			July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
HOBART.																
Groceries, etc.—			d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread .. ..	2lbs.	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00	4.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.00	4.00	4.00
Flour .. ..	25 „	36.30	39.67	42.00	42.33	42.30	47.61	48.60	55.10	57.55	56.90	56.30	55.55	40.55	39.50	41.60
Tea .. ..	lb.	15.60	15.67	15.60	15.67	15.60	15.67	15.60	15.60	17.40	17.50	17.90	17.90	17.90	17.20	17.20
Coffee .. ..	„	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00
Sugar .. ..	„	2.68	2.69	2.70	2.72	2.70	2.72	2.70	2.70	2.98	2.98	3.00	2.98	3.00	3.13	3.50
Rice .. ..	„	2.95	2.94	2.95	2.94	2.95	2.94	2.95	2.95	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98
Sago .. ..	„	2.95	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.06	3.05	3.05	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.20
Jam .. ..	„	4.35	4.33	4.35	4.33	4.35	4.33	4.35	4.38	4.38	4.40	4.40	4.45	4.65	4.63	4.88
Oatmeal .. ..	„	2.30	2.33	2.33	2.33	2.40	2.61	2.90	3.28	3.70	3.33	2.65	2.70	2.55	2.50	2.48
Raisins .. ..	„	6.45	6.39	6.45	6.50	6.45	6.61	6.65	6.75	7.30	7.30	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.40
Currants .. ..	„	7.15	7.33	7.30	7.33	7.20	7.22	7.30	7.45	7.95	8.05	8.05	8.55	9.60	9.70	9.65
Starch .. ..	„	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Blue .. ..	doz. sq.	8.35	8.28	8.35	8.39	8.50	8.44	8.80	8.85	8.85	8.85	8.80	8.80	8.80	8.80	9.00
Candles .. ..	lb.	5.85	5.83	5.90	5.89	5.90	5.89	5.90	5.90	5.95	5.95	5.95	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.05
Soap .. ..	„	3.06	3.13	3.06	3.06	3.06	3.06	3.17	3.07	3.05	3.05	3.03	3.03	3.13	3.20	3.30
Potatoes .. ..	14lbs.	10.44	11.22	10.70	12.39	14.75	19.43	16.57	11.31	14.89	13.67	19.11	23.68	25.14	23.83	27.71
Onions .. ..	lb.	1.78	1.79	2.33	2.36	2.39	2.43	2.28	2.00	2.06	1.89	1.89	1.61	1.44	1.44	1.25
Kerosene .. ..	gal.	14.90	14.56	15.18	15.06	15.15	14.94	15.00	15.00	16.93	16.93	16.53	16.53	16.53	16.13	15.83
Dairy Produce—																
Milk .. ..	quart.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	7.00	7.00	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.90	5.83	5.83
Butter .. ..	lb.	15.90	16.22	15.50	14.89	14.50	14.56	14.70	16.30	28.40	20.50	19.60	16.40	17.20	15.90	17.80
Cheese .. ..	„	11.57	11.50	11.30	11.30	10.88	11.21	10.90	11.40	14.80	15.10	15.30	15.40	13.70	13.60	14.40
Eggs .. ..	doz.	17.43	16.11	10.58	12.00	12.00	13.55	14.80	15.70	20.10	15.10	17.80	15.10	18.70	15.30	19.80
Bacon, Middle ..	lb.	12.20	12.33	12.50	12.44	12.70	12.44	12.40	12.90	16.10	17.50	19.00	20.10	19.20	17.89	18.44
„ Shoulder .. ..	„	8.13	8.11	8.22	8.38	8.33	8.38	8.50	8.61	9.85	10.45	10.25	12.63	11.67	11.38	11.25
Ham .. ..	„	14.80	14.80	14.60	15.00	15.20	15.14	15.43	15.43	16.40	17.00	17.60	18.00	18.57	18.33	18.33
Meat—																
Beef, Sirloin .. ..	lb.	7.33	7.38	7.39	7.57	7.44	7.25	7.67	7.40	9.70	10.40	10.75	10.44	10.50	10.70	11.40
„ Ribs .. ..	„	6.66	6.13	6.22	6.29	6.38	6.33	6.61	6.35	8.65	9.05	9.15	9.00	8.83	9.20	9.90
„ Flank .. ..	„	4.94	4.81	5.06	5.07	5.25	5.33	5.17	5.05	7.40	8.20	8.00	7.78	7.78	8.10	8.80
„ Shin .. ..	„	5.63	5.38	5.44	5.57	5.63	5.50	5.00	5.00	6.56	7.56	7.56	7.38	7.56	7.10	8.30
Steak, Rump .. ..	„	9.56	9.50	9.56	9.71	9.75	9.83	9.78	9.60	11.80	12.30	12.40	11.78	11.78	12.60	14.00
„ Shoulder .. ..	„	5.94	5.94	6.06	6.07	6.06	6.25	6.00	6.00	8.20	8.60	8.90	8.78	8.78	9.30	10.20
„ Stewing .. ..	„	7.33	7.13	7.11	6.86	6.88	6.83	6.11	6.00	8.10	8.60	8.80	8.67	8.67	9.00	9.80
Beef, Corned Roll ..	„	6.39	6.56	6.72	6.93	6.75	6.83	6.67	6.80	8.80	9.40	9.30	9.22	9.22	10.00	11.10
„ Brisket, with bone	„	4.44	4.25	4.39	4.57	4.56	4.58	4.67	4.45	6.80	7.10	7.40	7.11	7.11	7.35	8.10
„ „ without .. ..	„	5.75	5.50	5.56	5.83	5.71	5.60	6.00	5.72	8.25	8.38	8.50	8.63	8.63	9.00	9.86
Mutton, Leg .. ..	„	6.78	6.81	6.94	6.93	6.94	7.00	6.83	6.73	9.15	10.10	9.80	9.22	9.00	9.40	11.20
„ Shoulder .. ..	„	5.50	5.56	5.78	5.71	5.75	5.50	5.67	5.45	7.90	8.90	8.60	8.13	7.88	8.50	9.70
„ Loin .. ..	„	6.50	6.47	6.39	6.71	6.63	6.67	6.56	6.60	8.95	9.80	9.45	9.28	9.06	9.30	10.70
„ Neck .. ..	„	5.78	5.44	5.50	5.64	5.63	5.50	6.06	5.40	8.10	8.65	8.25	8.17	7.94	8.20	9.50
Chops, Loin .. ..	„	7.17	7.06	7.06	7.21	7.19	7.25	7.22	7.00	9.50	10.50	10.00	9.78	9.88	10.30	11.80
„ Leg .. ..	„	7.11	7.00	7.00	7.14	7.25	7.33	7.00	7.10	9.60	11.60	10.00	9.78	9.50	10.40	12.20
„ Neck .. ..	„	5.67	6.06	5.89	6.00	6.00	6.17	6.33	5.90	8.40	9.10	8.70	8.78	8.88	9.00	10.33
Pork, Leg .. ..	„	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.29	8.13	8.17	8.25	8.20	10.40	11.60	11.70	11.22	11.25	12.80	13.00
„ Loin .. ..	„	8.39	8.06	8.22	8.57	8.44	8.33	8.72	8.35	11.05	12.30	12.25	11.94	11.94	13.40	14.20
„ Belly .. ..	„	8.33	8.14	8.33	8.71	8.63	8.50	9.00	8.70	11.30	12.80	12.90	12.22	12.00	13.50	14.20
„ Chops .. ..	„	8.78	8.75	8.67	8.86	8.88	9.00	9.13	8.85	11.40	12.50	13.20	12.56	12.25	14.00	14.70

PRICES, HOUSE RENT, AND COST OF LIVING.

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**WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTALS IN CAPITAL TOWNS, 4th  
QUARTER, 1914, TO 4th QUARTER, 1915, INCLUSIVE.**

TOWN.	1914.				1915.							
	3rd Quarter (July to Sept.).		4th Quarter (Oct. to (Dec.).		1st Quarter (Jan. to March.)		2nd Quarter (April to June).		3rd Quarter (July to Sept.).		4th Quarter (Oct. to Dec.)	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sydney .. ..	20	1	19	10	19	2	19	0	19	0	18	11
Melbourne .. ..	17	11	17	1	17	1	17	0	16	10	16	10
Brisbane .. ..	13	11	13	6	13	4	13	6	13	5	13	5
Adelaide .. ..	16	5	15	0	14	9	14	5	14	6	14	6
Perth .. ..	14	4	14	0	13	7	13	2	13	1	13	2
Hobart .. ..	14	4	14	5	14	5	14	6	14	6	14	6

NOTE.—The Rentals are shewn to the nearest penny.

**SECTION IV.—INVESTIGATIONS INTO VARIATIONS IN COST-  
OF-LIVING INDEX-NUMBERS IN 150 TOWNS IN COM-  
MONWEALTH.**

1. **Introduction.**—In order to supplement the information as to cost of living, which is collected each month for the 30 towns specified in the preceding Section, a special investigation was initiated in November, 1913, as to cost-of-living index-numbers in 70 additional towns in the Commonwealth. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120, and it is intended to carry it out in that month each year, thus making information available annually in all for 150 towns. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin, No. 5 (Section IV., pages 26 to 33), where some description was given of the methods adopted in making the investigation and in computing the index-numbers. The results of the second investigation (November, 1914) were published in Labour Bulletin No. 8 (Section IV., pages 231 to 240).

2. **Index-Numbers shewing relative Cost of Living.**—The results of the investigation made in November, 1915, are set out in the tables on pages 353 to 356. *The basis for the whole of this table is the weighted average aggregate expenditure for all the 150 towns on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses.* (See end of last column on page 356). This weighted average aggregate expenditure is made equal to 1000, and the aggregate expenditure on these items for each individual town is shewn in the last column in the form of index-numbers relative to this average. In the preceding column similar index-numbers are shewn for food, groceries, and rent of four-roomed houses, and these index-numbers are again computed to the same base indicated above. That is to say that while the index-number 1000 (see page 356) represents the weighted average expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses, 936 represents the average weighted expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of four-roomed houses. Similarly in the remaining three columns, if 1000 represents the weighted average expenditure on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses (page 356), the index-number 707 represents the relative weighted average expenditure on food and groceries only, the index-number 229 represents the relative weighted average expenditure on rent of four-roomed houses, and 293 the expenditure on rent of five-roomed houses. It follows, therefore, that the figures given in the table are comparable throughout. Thus taking the average weighted expenditure for all 150 towns on food, groceries, and rent of



five-roomed houses as equal to 1000, the expenditure on the same items in Melbourne is 1005, while if four-roomed houses were substituted for five-roomed, the expenditure in Melbourne would be represented by 937, of which 690 would be the expenditure on food and groceries, and the remaining 315 the expenditure on house rent. Again the expenditure in Sydney on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses is 1071, or 7.1 per cent above the weighted average, and that number is made up of 698, the relative expenditure on food and groceries, and 373 the relative expenditure on rent of five-roomed houses. The expenditure on the same items in Grafton is represented by 957, of which 740 represents the expenditure on food and groceries and 217 that on rent.

In the following table, the first column shews the index-numbers for food and groceries only, while the second and third shew the index-numbers for the rent of houses having four and five rooms respectively. The fourth column shews the aggregate index-numbers for food and groceries combined with the rent of four-roomed houses, and the last column the index-numbers for food and groceries combined with the rent of five-roomed houses.

**Relative Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1915.\***

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms Index No.
<b>New South Wales</b> ..					
Sydney ..	698	300	373	998	1,071
Newcastle ..	686	231	310	917	996
Broken Hill ..	821	104	145	925	966
Goulburn ..	692	248	338	940	1,030
Bathurst ..	669	171	224	840	893
Adelong ..	747	117	153	864	900
Albury ..	703	202	249	905	952
Armidale ..	699	178	231	877	930
Bega ..	707	150	215	857	922
Bourke ..	746	139	183	885	929
Bowral ..	682	178	238	860	920
Casino ..	717	176	227	893	944
Cobar ..	735	57	72	792	807
Cooma ..	780	171	210	951	990
Coonamble ..	716	207	259	923	975
Cootamundra ..	723	222	323	945	1,046
Corrimal ..	693	144	181	837	874
Cowra ..	692	238	294	930	986
Deniliquin ..	749	181	223	930	972
Dubbo ..	719	186	246	905	965
Forbes ..	718	166	199	884	917
Glen Innes ..	696	139	197	835	893
Grafton ..	740	168	217	908	957
Grenfell ..	731	207	259	938	990
Gunnedah ..	705	155	207	860	912
Hay ..	816	173	219	989	1,035
Inverell ..	682	250	292	932	974
Junee ..	717	186	274	903	991
Katoomba ..	686	285	388	971	1,074
Kempsey ..	699	126	209	825	908
Lismore ..	697	208	286	905	983
Lithgow ..	725	220	270	945	995

\* These results are based upon the regimen referred to in the previous section.



**Relative Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1915—cont.**

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms, Index No.
<b>New South Wales—cont.</b>					
Maitland .. ..	666	149	215	815	881
Moree .. ..	760	155	258	915	1,018
Moss Vale .. ..	705	248	315	953	1,020
Mudgee .. ..	699	161	218	860	917
Narrabri .. ..	711	223	254	934	965
Nowra .. ..	694	128	165	822	859
Orange .. ..	676	180	305	856	981
Parkes .. ..	712	174	223	886	935
Queanbeyan .. ..	735	209	248	944	983
Tamworth .. ..	708	212	290	920	998
Temora .. ..	739	238	284	977	1,023
Wagga Wagga .. ..	676	211	274	887	950
Wellington .. ..	696	208	274	904	970
Wollongong .. ..	679	189	246	868	925
Wyalong .. ..	721	140	195	861	916
Yass .. ..	769	192	245	961	1,014
Young .. ..	709	212	248	921	957
Weighted Average for State .. ..	703	265	334	968	1,037
<b>Victoria—</b>					
Melbourne .. ..	690	247	315	937	1,005
Ballarat .. ..	709	114	170	823	879
Bendigo .. ..	683	138	183	821	866
Geelong .. ..	688	167	240	855	928
Warrnambool .. ..	704	174	230	878	934
Ararat .. ..	726	150	230	876	956
Bairnsdale .. ..	732	116	204	848	936
Beechworth .. ..	724	109	134	833	858
Benalla .. ..	712	176	223	888	935
Bright .. ..	746	137	161	883	907
Camperdown .. ..	663	181	230	844	893
Castlemaine .. ..	699	153	222	852	921
Colac .. ..	694	203	247	897	941
Creswick .. ..	716	110	140	826	856
Daylesford .. ..	717	122	153	839	870
Dunnolly .. ..	692	115	155	807	847
Echuca .. ..	710	114	150	824	860
Euroa .. ..	695	137	173	832	868
Hamilton .. ..	749	230	285	979	1,034
Horsham .. ..	747	201	227	948	974
Korumburra .. ..	735	165	207	900	942
Kyneton .. ..	719	124	184	843	903
Maldon .. ..	709	83	98	792	807
Maryborough .. ..	685	116	149	801	834
Mildura .. ..	761	248	270	1,009	1,031
Nhill .. ..	719	166	190	885	909
Omeo .. ..	815	103	124	918	939
Orbost .. ..	722	168	220	890	942
Portland .. ..	753	196	236	949	989
St. Arnaud .. ..	767	142	196	909	963
Sale .. ..	668	142	199	810	867
Shepparton .. ..	696	165	235	861	931
Stawell .. ..	763	161	198	924	961

**Relative Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1915—*cont.***

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms Index No.
<b>Victoria—<i>cont.</i></b>					
Swan Hill ..	709	219	328	928	1,037
Walhalla ..	727	72	103	799	830
Wandiligong ..	773	103	103	876	876
Wangaratta ..	710	198	241	908	951
Warracknabeal ..	660	173	217	833	877
Wonthaggi ..	743	210	259	953	1,002
Yackandandah ..	707	104	135	811	842
Weighted Average for State ..	695	217	281	912	976
<b>Queensland—</b>					
Brisbane ..	712	178	233	890	945
Toowoomba ..	725	149	182	874	907
Rockhampton ..	766	163	194	929	960
Charters Towers ..	764	147	199	911	963
Warwick ..	700	118	173	818	873
Bundaberg ..	708	155	207	863	915
Cairns ..	740	197	272	937	1,012
Charleville ..	811	228	321	1,039	1,132
Chillagoe ..	811	207	258	1,018	1,069
Cloncurry ..	836	269	337	1,105	1,173
Cooktown ..	778	93	134	871	912
Cunnamulla ..	864	155	206	1,019	1,070
Gooniwindi ..	758	160	207	918	965
Gympie ..	722	144	160	866	882
Hamilton ..	726	207	311	933	1,037
Hughenden ..	771	258	310	1,029	1,081
Ipswich ..	729	181	227	910	956
Longreach ..	766	165	207	931	973
Mackay ..	726	212	268	938	994
Maryborough ..	740	131	178	871	918
Mt. Morgan ..	769	171	207	940	976
Roma ..	759	233	285	992	1,044
Townsville ..	772	233	317	1,005	1,089
Winton ..	808	259	362	1,067	1,170
Weighted Average for State ..	730	175	226	905	956
<b>South Australia—</b>					
Adelaide ..	710	229	297	939	1,007
Moonta & Kadina ..	722	136	210	858	932
Port Pirie ..	747	175	217	922	964
Mt. Gambier ..	679	170	212	849	891
Petersburg ..	726	196	258	922	984
Gawler ..	707	166	233	873	940
Kapunda ..	724	109	140	833	864
Murray Bridge ..	694	230	287	924	981
Pt. Augusta ..	723	264	331	987	1,054
Pt. Lincoln ..	730	184	259	914	989
Pt. Victor ..	700	219	266	919	966
Renmark ..	727	230	264	957	991
Weighted Average for State ..	712	217	283	929	995

**Relative Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers in Various Towns compared with Weighted Average Cost of Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms as Base (=1000), November, 1915—cont.**

State and Town.	Food and Groceries, Index No.	House Rent, 4 Rooms, Index No.	House Rent, 5 Rooms, Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 4 Rooms Index No.	Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5 Rooms Index No.
<b>Western Australia—</b>					
Perth & Fremantle	677	230	284	907	961
Kalgoorlie & Boulder	840	263	336	1,103	1,176
Midland Junction & Guildford ..	687	190	262	877	949
Bunbury .. ..	725	174	211	899	936
Geraldton .. ..	763	293	383	1,056	1,146
Albany .. ..	731	245	297	976	1,028
Broome .. ..	765	†	†	†	†
Carnarvon .. ..	779	194	272	973	1,051
Cue .. ..	885	140	181	1,025	1,066
Katanning .. ..	684	233	303	917	987
Leonora .. ..	923	171	196	1,094	1,119
Menzies .. ..	1,007	103	124	1,110	1,131
Northam .. ..	713	238	307	951	1,020
Ravensthorpe ..	907	93	114	1,000	1,021
Weighted Average for State ..	720	232	292	952	1,012
<b>Tasmania—</b>					
Hobart .. ..	710	237	288	947	998
Launceston .. ..	704	199	276	903	980
Zeehan .. ..	790	106	135	896	925
Beaconsfield ..	800	72	78	872	878
Queenstown .. ..	796	233	269	1,029	1,065
Burnie .. ..	705	219	284	924	989
Campbelltown ..	†	93	93	†	†
Devonport .. ..	732	183	264	915	996
Franklin .. ..	†	160	186	†	†
Oatlands .. ..	639	114	140	753	779
Scottsdale .. ..	686	121	151	807	837
Weighted Average for State ..	719	206	261	925	980
Weighted Average Commonwealth	707	229	293	936	1,000*

\* Basis of Tables. † Not available.

**3 Food and Groceries.**—Comparing the index-numbers for food and groceries alone (column 1), it will be observed that, taking the weighted average for all the towns in each State, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania are above the average for the Commonwealth, while Victoria and New South Wales are below. Queensland is the most expensive State (3.2 per cent. above the average), and Victoria the cheapest (1.7 below). Of the other States Western Australia is 1.8 per cent., Tasmania 1.7 per cent., and South Australia 0.7 per cent. above the average, while New South Wales is 0.6 per cent. below the average. In all the States some of the towns are above and some below the average. In New South Wales the most expensive town is Broken Hill, 16.1 per cent. above the average, and the cheapest town is Maitland,

5.8 per cent. below the average. In Victoria the most expensive town is Omeo, 15.3 per cent. above the average; the cheapest town is Warracknabeal, 6.6 per cent. below the average. In Queensland the most expensive town is Cunnamulla, 22.2 per cent. above the average; and the cheapest town is Warwick, 1.0 per cent. below the average. In South Australia the most expensive town is Port Pirie, 5.7 per cent. above the average; and the cheapest town Mt. Gambier, 4.0 per cent. below the average. In Western Australia the most expensive towns are Menzies, 42.4 per cent., Cue, 25.2 per cent., and Kalgoorlie, 18.8 per cent. above the average; and the cheapest town is Perth, 4.2 per cent., below the average. In Tasmania the most expensive town is Beaconsfield, 13.2 per cent. above, and Oatlands, the cheapest, 9.6 per cent. below the Commonwealth average.

4. **House Rents.**—There is a far greater divergence between the relative expenditure on house rents in the various towns than on food and groceries. As might naturally be expected, the general tendency appears to be that the cost of housing accommodation is greater in places where there is great centralisation of people than in sparsely-populated districts. That this is not always the case is at once apparent on comparing the index-numbers for Sydney with its 700,000 inhabitants, and Geraldton, in Western Australia, with under 4000 inhabitants. It will be observed that in the case of the latter town the index-number for houses of five rooms is greater than in Sydney, and is only slightly lower than Sydney for houses of four rooms. Reference has already been made to the fact that it was found impossible to obtain precise information as to house rent in certain towns (see page 337), and that special particulars had been collected in order that the predominant rents might be computed. This refers to Broken Hill, and Cobar, in New South Wales, and to Port Pirie, in South Australia.

Comparing the weighted average of the towns in each State, it will be seen that, in the case of four-roomed houses, New South Wales is 15.7 per cent., and Western Australia, 1.3 per cent., above the average for the whole of the towns, while the other States are below the average; Queensland, 23.6 per cent.; Tasmania, 10.0 per cent.; Victoria, 5.2 per cent.; and South Australia, 5.2 per cent. Turning to the index-numbers for houses having five rooms, the only State in which the index-number is above the average is New South Wales (14 per cent.). The index-numbers in the other States are all below the average; Queensland, 22.9 per cent.; Tasmania, 10.9 per cent.; Victoria, 4.1 per cent.; South Australia, 3.4 per cent., and Western Australia, 0.3 per cent.

Comparing individual towns in the different States in New South Wales, the town having the highest index-number for houses of four rooms, is Sydney, which is 31 per cent. above the Commonwealth average, and Katoomba, for houses of five rooms, 32.4 per cent. above the average. Adelong has the lowest index-number both for houses of four and five rooms; in the former case 48.9 per cent., and in the latter, 47.8 per cent. below the average. Mildura has the highest index-number in Victoria for houses having four rooms, 8.3 per cent. above; and Swan Hill for houses having five rooms, 11.9 per cent. above the average. Walhalla has the lowest index-number for four-roomed houses, 68.6 per cent. below the average, and Maldon for five-roomed houses, 66.6 per cent. below the average. In Queensland the town having the highest index-number for houses of four rooms is Cloncurry, being 17.5 per cent. above the average,

and for houses of five rooms, Winton, which is 23.5 per cent. above the average. Cooktown has the lowest index-number for both classes of house, 59.4 per cent. for four-roomed houses, and 54.3 per cent. for five-roomed houses below the average. Port Augusta has the highest index-number in South Australia, 15.3 per cent. for houses of four rooms, and 13.0 per cent. for houses of five rooms, above the Commonwealth average. Kapunda has the lowest index-number, 52.4 per cent. for houses of four rooms, and 52.2 per cent. for houses of five rooms below the average. In Western Australia, Geraldton has the highest index-number, being 27.9 per cent. above the average, in the case of four-roomed houses, and 30.7 per cent. for houses having five rooms. Ravensthorpe has the lowest index-number, being 59.4 per cent. below the average for houses having four rooms, and 61.1 per cent. below for houses having five rooms. Hobart has the highest index-number in Tasmania both for houses of four rooms and five rooms. In the former case it is 3.5 per cent. above and in the latter case 1.6 per cent. below the Commonwealth average. Beaconsfield has the lowest index-number both for houses of four and five rooms. For the former it is 68.6 per cent., and for the latter, 73.4 per cent. below the average for all towns.

**5. Food, Groceries, and House Rent.**—The index-numbers in the last two columns of the tables on pages 353 to 356 indicate the relative cost of living for food and groceries, combined with rent of the two classes of houses indicated. The general order and arrangement, both of the separate States and of individual towns as regards relative cost of living, is the same whether the rent included refers to four or to five-roomed houses. Thus it may be seen that for the combined expenditure in each case, the weighted average index-number in each State is above the average in New South Wales, and Western Australia, and below in the remaining States. For combined expenditure on food and groceries, and rent of four-roomed houses, New South Wales is 3.4 per cent., and Western Australia, 1.7 per cent. above the weighted average for the Commonwealth, while Queensland is 3.3 per cent., Victoria 2.6 per cent., Tasmania 1.2 per cent., and South Australia 0.7 per cent. below the average. For combined expenditure on food and groceries and houses having five rooms, New South Wales is 3.7 per cent., and Western Australia 1.2 per cent. above the average for all towns, while Queensland is 4.4 per cent., Victoria 2.4 per cent., Tasmania 2.0 per cent., and South Australia 0.5 per cent. below the average. In New South Wales the cost-of-living index-number including four rooms is greatest in Sydney, 6.6 per cent. above the average, and including five rooms in Katoomba, 7.4 per cent. above. Excluding Broken Hill and Cobar for reasons already stated, the cost-of-living index-number, including four rooms, is lowest in Maitland, 2.9 per cent., and including five rooms in Nowra, 14.1 per cent. below the average. Mildura has the highest combined index-number for Victoria, including four rooms, and Swan Hill, including five rooms. In the former case it is 7.8 per cent., and in the latter 3.7 per cent. above the average. Maldon has the lowest combined index-number, being 15.4 per cent. below the average, when combined expenditure for four rooms is taken, and 19.3 per cent. below the average for five rooms. In Queensland the most expensive town in both cases is Cloncurry, 18.1 per cent. above the average for four rooms, and 17.3 per cent. above the average for five rooms. Warwick has the lowest combined index-number, being 12.6 per cent. below the average, when combined expenditure for four rooms is taken,

and 12.7 per cent. below when combined expenditure for five rooms is taken. In South Australia the town having the highest combined index-number in both cases is Port Augusta, 5.4 per cent. for both four and five rooms above the Commonwealth average. Kapunda has the lowest index-number, 16.7 per cent. for houses of four rooms, and 13.6 per cent. for houses of five rooms below the average. In Western Australia the combined index-number is greatest for houses of four rooms in Menzies, 18.6 per cent. above the average and for houses of five rooms in Kalgoorlie, 17.6 per cent. above the average. Midland Junction has the lowest combined index-number for four rooms, and Bunbury for five rooms. In the former case it is 6.3 per cent., and in the latter 6.4 per cent. below the Commonwealth average. Queenstown has the highest combined index-number in Tasmania, being 9.9 per cent. for four rooms, and 6.5 per cent. for five rooms above the average. Oatlands has the lowest combined index-number, being 24.7 per cent. below the average, when combined expenditure for four rooms is taken, and 22.1 per cent., below the average for five rooms.

#### 6. Variation in Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers, 1913, 1914 and 1915.—

On the map facing page 360 index-numbers are given which represent the relative cost of living index-numbers in each of the 100 towns in 1913 and 1914, and also shew the increase or decrease in 100 towns between November, 1913, and the same month in 1914 and 1915. In these index-numbers the weighted average expenditure in 1913 on food, groceries, and rent of five-roomed houses is taken as base (= 1000, see end of first column). The second column represents the proportional expenditure in each town on food and groceries only, so that the difference between the index-number in the first column and that in the second column for any town represents the relative expenditure on rent in November, 1913. In the third and fourth columns shewing cost-of-living index-numbers for November, 1914, the same base is retained, with the result that the figures shew not only relative cost of living in that month, but also the increase or decrease in cost during the periods indicated. Similarly, the index-numbers in the fourth and sixth columns are again computed to the original base, so that they shew both the relative cost of food and groceries as between the several towns, and the variation in cost in each individual town since November, 1913. Thus it may be seen that in Sydney the cost-of-living index-number increased from 1109 to 1321, a rise of 19.1 per cent., between November, 1913, and November, 1915. The figures shew, moreover, that the cost-of-living index-number in Sydney (1109) was 10.9 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1000) in November, 1913, while twelve months later the index-number (1124) was 8.6 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1035), and in November, 1915, it was 1321, or 7.1 per cent. above the Commonwealth average (1234). Again, as regards cost of food and groceries only, the index-number in 1913 was 634, or 2.1 per cent. above the Commonwealth average 621; in November, 1914, the corresponding number was 651, and in November, 1915, 861, shewing that the cost increased from November, 1913, to November, 1915, by 35.8 per cent., and was then 1.3 per cent. below the Commonwealth average (665). The difference between the two index-numbers for Sydney in 1913 was 475, and the corresponding difference in 1915, 460. This shews that rent of five-roomed houses had decreased 3.2 per cent.

It has already been explained that the list of towns from which information as to prices and house rents are collected annually has been extended, and for November, 1915, was 150. The index-numbers for the 50 additional towns for November, 1915, are shewn in columns 7 and 8, on the map. They are computed to the same base as the 100 towns, and are therefore comparable with them in all respects. Thus, it may be seen that comparing Melbourne and Bright, the index-number for food and groceries in November, 1915, was 852 for Melbourne, and 921 for Bright, shewing that the cost of food and groceries was 8.1 per cent. higher in Bright than in Melbourne. Again, taking the difference between the two index-numbers for November, 1915, in each case, it may be seen that the index-number for rent of five-roomed houses was in Melbourne 388, and in Bright 197. Thus the rent of five-roomed houses is 50.8 per cent. less in Bright than in Melbourne.

**7. Comparisons between Results obtained from Special Investigation and Quarterly Results.**—In order to ascertain the degree of accuracy to which the investigations as to cost of living made prior to 1912 for the capital towns only, and those made since the beginning of 1912 for the thirty towns, reflect the conditions obtaining throughout the States and Commonwealth, comparisons between the three sets of results were made in connection with the inquiry of November, 1913 and 1914. Similar comparisons are now made in connection with the 1915 inquiry. In the following table the first line in each section shews the results obtained, as to relative cost of living, from the special inquiry covering in all 150 towns. The second line gives the results obtained from the returns received for the month of November, 1915, for the five towns in each State from which regular monthly returns are received, and the last line the results obtained from the November returns for the capital cities only. The capital towns are, of course, included in each of the other two investigations, and the five towns in each State are included in the investigation for "all towns":—

**Relative Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers. Comparisons between Results obtained from Special Investigation and from Ordinary Periodic Returns, November, 1915.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	W'ght Aver- age.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.							
All Towns* .. ..	994	983	1,033	1,007	1,019	1,017	1,000
Five Towns in each State	998	984	1,028	1,013	1,017	1,026	1,000
Capital Town only ..	1,002	991	1,021	1,019	972	1,019	1,000
RENT, 5-ROOMED HOUSES.							
All Towns* .. ..	1,141	958	770	965	994	890	1,000
Five Towns in each State	1,163	954	719	932	962	874	1,000
Capital Town only ..	1,146	968	719	913	873	884	1,000
FOOD AND GROCERIES AND RENT.							
All Towns* .. ..	1,037	976	956	995	1,012	980	1,000
Five Towns in each State	1,048	975	934	988	1,000	980	1,000
Capital Town only ..	1,048	984	925	985	940	976	1,000

\* For list of towns included see Table on pages 353 to 356.



INDIAN OCEAN

SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

Weighted Average for 100 towns in November, 1913 = 1000

A B C D E F G H

A—Less than one inhabitant in 16 sq. miles.  
B—From 1 inhabitant in 16 sq. miles to less than 1 in 4 sq. miles.  
C— " 1 " " 4 " 1 in 1 sq. mile.  
D— " 1 " " 1 sq. mile " 2 in 1 " "  
E— " 2 inhabitants in 1 " " 4 in 1 " "  
F— " 4 " " " 8 in 1 " "  
G— " 8 " " " 16 in 1 " "  
H—16 inhabitants and upwards in 1 sq. mile.

## RELATIVE COST OF LIVING

(NOVEMBER, 1913, 1914 AND 1915)

IN RELATION TO

## DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

	1913.		1914.		1915.			1915.	
	A	B	A	B	A	B		A	B
1 SYDNEY	1,109	634	1,124	651	1,321	861	N. S. Wales—		
2 Newcastle	980	637	972	648	1,228	847	101 Adelong	1,110	922
3 Broken Hill	1,116	768	849	773	1,192	1,013	102 Albury	1,174	868
4 Goulburn	974	629	1,035	667	1,271	854	103 Bega	1,137	873
5 Bathurst	892	583	909	608	1,102	825	104 Bourke	1,146	920
6 Armidale	875	601	948	618	1,148	863	105 Bowral	1,135	841
7 Cobar	987	661	881	742	996	907	106 Casino	1,165	884
8 Cooma	861	638	975	662	1,221	962	107 Connamble	1,202	883
9 Cootamundra	977	632	990	653	1,290	892	108 Corral	1,078	854
10 Deniliquin	836	606	943	675	1,199	924	109 Cowra	1,217	854
11 Grafton	919	632	922	654	1,181	913	110 Dubbo	1,190	887
12 Hay	918	688	989	740	1,277	1,006	111 Forbes	1,131	886
13 Lismore	931	695	1,042	723	1,213	860	112 Glen Innes	1,101	859
14 Lithgow	915	628	938	625	1,227	894	113 Grenfell	1,221	902
15 Moree	981	681	1,041	696	1,256	937	114 Gunnedah	1,252	870
16 Mudgee	824	569	895	640	1,131	863	115 Inverell	1,201	841
17 Queanbeyan	1,052	650	980	635	1,213	906	116 Junee	1,223	885
18 Tamworth	902	599	1,066	649	1,231	874	117 Katoomba	1,325	847
19 Wagga Wagga	967	584	949	670	1,172	834	118 Kempsey	1,120	862
20 Yass	943	637	1,040	676	1,251	948	119 Maitland	1,087	822
21 West Wyalong	966	631	952	669	1,130	890	120 Moss Vale	1,258	869
22 MELBOURNE	964	568	1,019	628	1,240	852	121 Narrabri	1,190	877
23 Ballarat	767	566	845	636	1,084	874	122 Nowra	1,060	856
24 Bendigo	815	573	873	641	1,068	843	123 Orange	1,210	834
25 Geelong	872	579	943	639	1,145	849	124 Parkes	1,153	879
26 Warrnambool	865	581	914	620	1,152	868	125 Temora	1,262	911
27 Ararat	832	577	915	641	1,179	895	126 Wellington	1,197	859
28 Bairnsdale	796	579	838	615	1,155	903	127 Wollongong	1,141	838
29 Camperdown	866	572	915	625	1,101	818	128 Young	1,180	874
30 Castlemaine	773	547	911	636	1,137	862	VICTORIA—		
31 Creswick	730	577	808	636	1,056	883	129 Beechworth	1,059	893
32 Daylesford	779	590	817	638	1,073	885	130 Benalla	1,153	879
33 Echuca	811	607	857	672	1,061	876	131 Bright	1,118	921
34 Hamilton	871	594	926	636	1,275	924	132 Colac	1,161	856
35 Horsham	849	534	938	670	1,202	921	133 Dunnolly	1,045	853
36 Koroombura	839	596	892	625	1,162	907	134 Euroa	1,071	857
37 Kyneton	766	562	790	611	1,114	887	135 Maldon	996	875
38 Maryborough	745	573	808	626	1,029	844	136 Omeo	1,158	1,005
39 Mildura	972	608	1,053	696	1,272	939	137 Orbost	1,162	890
40 Nhill	867	593	905	656	1,121	887	138 St Arnaud	1,188	946
41 Portland	796	592	904	624	1,220	928	139 Shepparton	1,149	859
42 Sale	784	551	874	634	1,070	824	140 Stawell	1,186	942
43 Swan Hill	975	618	1,000	649	1,279	874	141 Wandiligong	1,081	954
44 Walhalla	790	687	808	693	1,025	897	142 Wonthaggi	1,236	917
45 Wangaratta	825	589	965	662	1,173	876	143 Yackandandah	1,038	873
46 Warracknabeal	810	555	877	647	1,082	814	QUEENSLAND—		
47 BRISBANE	878	583	919	627	1,166	878	144 Cloncurry	1,447	1,032
48 Toowoomba	840	603	898	646	1,119	894	145 Hamilton	1,279	896
49 Rockhampton	863	617	920	668	1,184	945	146 Mackay	1,227	895
50 Charters Towers	907	658	997	752	1,188	942	147 Roma	1,288	937
51 Warwick	822	590	863	635	1,077	863	S. AUSTRALIA		
52 Bundaberg	851	621	893	650	1,123	873	148 Gawler	1,160	873
53 Cairns	1,067	704	1,140	809	1,248	913	W. AUSTRALIA		
54 Charleville	1,069	704	1,041	722	1,396	1,001	149 Cue	1,315	1,092
55 Chillagoe	1,153	834	1,052	892	1,319	1,000	150 Northam	1,259	879
56 Cooktown	937	745	1,003	799	1,125	959			
57 Cunnamulla	992	724	1,047	779	1,321	1,065			
58 Goonewind	958	639	968	680	1,190	935			
59 Gympie	791	600	819	653	1,088	890			
60 Hughenden	1,145	756	1,269	803	1,334	951			
61 Ipswich	874	606	900	632	1,180	899			
62 Longreach	1,047	728	1,123	823	1,200	945			
63 Maryborough	762	584	830	624	1,133	913			
64 Mount Morgan	880	637	951	696	1,204	949			
65 Townsville	966	636	1,123	769	1,343	952			
66 Winton	1,147	803	1,136	817	1,443	997			
67 ADELAIDE	1,056	619	1,078	698	1,243	876			
68 Kadina-Moonta	862	636	941	690	1,150	891			
69 Port Pirie	972	644	973	729	1,189	922			
70 Mount Gambier	816	568	894	614	1,100	838			
71 Petersburg	996	613	1,099	742	1,214	895			
72 Kapunda	847	618	901	690	1,066	893			
73 Murray Bridge	911	618	1,004	640	1,210	856			
74 Port Augusta	931	660	1,115	770	1,300	892			
75 Port Lincoln	993	674	1,034	716	1,220	901			
76 Renmark	985	666	1,041	696	1,222	897			
77 Victor Harbour	924	637	1,103	720	1,192	863			
78 PERTH	1,116	719	1,131	762	1,186	836			
79 Kalgoorlie	1,277	912	1,344	988	1,451	1,036			
80 Midland Junction	1,079	731	1,106	777	1,171	847			
81 Bunbury	1,113	757	1,155	819	1,155	894			
82 Geraldton	1,317	783	1,344	856	1,413	941			
83 Broome	+	942	+	943	+	944			
84 Albany	1,147	793	1,184	817	1,268	901			
85 Carnarvon	1,343	960	1,316	965	1,296	961			
86 Katanning	1,154	748	1,160	774	1,218	844			
87 Leonora	1,285	1,042	1,324	1,069	1,381	1,139			
88 Menzies	1,153	1,026	1,286	1,133	1,395	1,242			
89 Ravensthorpe	1,147	1,019	1,150	1,010	1,260	1,119			
90 HOBART	975	645	1,042	702	1,231	876			
91 Launceston	911	596	999	668	1,209	868			
92 Zeehan	934	717	928	758	1,141	975			
93 Beaconsfield	769	654	806	710	1,083	987			
94 Queenstown	988	724	1,062	746	1,314	982			
95 Burnie	956	606	1,011	633	1,220	870			
96 Campbell Town	701	599	766	660	+	+			
97 Devonport	899	623	879	633	1,228	903			
98 Franklin	909	654	919	703	+	+			
99 Otlands	820	628	874	682	961	788			
100 Scottsdale	763	570	844	632	1,032	846			

Weighted Average .. \*1,000 \*621 \*1,035 \*665 †1,234 †872

\* Weighted average of 100 Towns.  
† Weighted average of 150 Towns.  
+ Not available.

A.—Heavy Figures denote index-numbers for Food, Groceries, and Rent of 5-roomed Houses.  
B.—Light figures denote index-numbers for Food and Groceries only.



As regards variations in cost of living for November, 1914 and 1915, compared with November, 1913, the index-numbers for November, 1914, and November, 1915, computed from the three sets of data are shewn in the following table :—

**Variations in Cost-of-Living Index-Numbers, Results obtained from Annual Inquiry for extended List of Towns and from Periodic Monthly Inquiries, November, 1913, 1914 and 1915.**

Particulars.	1913.	1914.	1915.
FOOD AND GROCERIES.			
All Towns .. .. .	1,000	1,072	1,405
Five Towns in each State .. .. .	1,000	1,073	1,404
Capital Towns only .. .. .	1,000	1,072	1,408
RENT OF 5 ROOMED HOUSES.			
All Towns .. .. .	1,000	974	952
Five Towns in each State .. .. .	1,000	969	961
Capital Towns only .. .. .	1,000	975	955
FOOD, GROCERIES, AND RENT.			
All Towns .. .. .	1,000	1,035	1,234
Five Towns in each State .. .. .	1,000	1,033	1,232
Capital Towns only .. .. .	1,000	1,032	1,223

*NOTE.*—The figures in the vertical columns do not, of course, shew relative cost-of-living index-numbers. They shew merely the increase or decrease in cost in November, 1915, compared with November, 1914 for "All Towns," "Five Towns in each State," and "Capital Towns only" respectively.

The index-numbers in the first line of each part of the latter table refer to 100 towns for November, 1913 and 1914, and to 150 towns for November, 1915. The general closeness of the results shewn in these two tables is remarkable, and is a further confirmation of the conclusions previously stated, that the index-numbers published for the capital towns only, for the years prior to 1912, and for the thirty towns for 1912 and subsequent years, reflect, with a substantial degree of accuracy, the variations in the cost-of-living index-numbers, not only in each State separately, but also throughout the Commonwealth as a whole. The second table also shews that during the period November, 1913, to November, 1915, the average cost of food and groceries throughout the Commonwealth increased over 40 per cent., while house rents declined nearly 5 per cent., the aggregate result shewing an increase of over 23 per cent.

## SECTION V.—WHOLESALE PRICES.

1. **Summarised Results for Year 1915.**—The average wholesale price index-number for the whole year 1915 is 1604, an increase of 39.6 per cent. on that for the preceding year. The index-numbers at decennial periods since 1871, and for each year since 1908 inclusive, based on the wholesale prices in 1911 as base (= 1000), are shewn in the following table :—

**Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers, 1871 to 1915.**

YEAR.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Index No.*	1,229	1,121	945	974	1,115	993	1,003	<b>1,000</b>	1,172	1,088	1,149	1,604

\* See graph on page 324 hereinbefore.

The wholesale price index-number in 1914 was higher than in any year since 1871 except 1912. In 1915 prices increased rapidly during the first three quarters of the year, owing to the double calamity of drought and war, but fell during the fourth quarter, when the abundance of the new season's crops caused the prices of meat, agricultural and dairy produce to fall. The index-number for the various commodity groups for each quarter of the year 1915 are shewn in the following table, in which the index-numbers for the whole of each year, from 1911 to 1914, are also included for purposes of comparison :—

**Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Quarterly Index-Numbers for each Commodity Group, 1911 to 1915.**

Group.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	Quarters of 1915.			
						1st Q'rter.	2nd Q'rter.	3rd Q'rter.	4th Q'rter.
I.—Metals and Coal ..	<b>1,000</b>	1,021	1,046	1,099	<b>1,284</b>	1,198	1,251	1,327	<b>1,360</b>
II.—Textiles, Leather, etc.	<b>1,000</b>	991	1,070	1,032	<b>1,017</b>	912	974	1,002	<b>1,181</b>
III.—Agricultural Produce ..	<b>1,000</b>	1,370	1,097	1,207	<b>2,162</b>	1,934	2,452	2,513	<b>1,751</b>
IV.—Dairy Produce ..	<b>1,000</b>	1,206	1,054	1,137	<b>1,530</b>	1,205	1,661	1,758	<b>1,496</b>
V.—Groceries and Tobacco	<b>1,000</b>	1,052	1,024	1,021	<b>1,133</b>	1,073	1,097	1,164	<b>1,198</b>
VI.—Meat ..	<b>1,000</b>	1,357	1,252	1,507	<b>2,435</b>	1,700	2,253	3,291	<b>2,492</b>
VII.—Building Materials ..	<b>1,000</b>	1,057	1,128	1,081	<b>1,275</b>	1,112	1,238	1,329	<b>1,375</b>
VIII.—Chemicals ..	<b>1,000</b>	978	995	1,253	<b>1,528</b>	1,527	1,505	1,565	<b>1,514</b>
ALL GROUPS .. ..	<b>1,000</b>	1,172	1,088	1,149	<b>1,604</b>	1,387	1,660	1,822	<b>1,544</b>

The commodities which shew the greatest increase in price since 1911 up to the fourth quarter of 1915 are those included in Group III. (Agricultural Produce), in which there was a rise of 75 per cent. ; Group IV. (Dairy Produce), 50 per cent., Group VI. (Meat), 150 per cent. ; and Group VIII. (Chemicals), 51 per cent. During 1915 the index-number for the second quarter was 20.7 per cent. higher than that for the first, and a further rise of 19.7 per cent. took place in the third quarter, while on the other hand the index-number for the fourth quarter was 15.3 per cent. lower than that for the third. The index-number for the last quarter of 1915 was 1544, or 26.0 per cent. higher than that for the same quarter of 1914 (1225).

2. **Variations in Price Levels of Commodity Groups.**—Since the third quarter of 1915 the price levels of four of the eight groups (into which the 92 commodities are classified) have risen, and those of four have fallen. The following table gives the index-numbers for the fourth quarter of 1915, the preceding quarter (July to September, 1915), and the corresponding quarter (October to December) of 1914, together with the percentage increases of the index-numbers for the fourth quarter of 1915, compared with those for the quarter immediately preceding:—

**Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers for Quarter, October to December, 1915.**

	No. of Com- modities.	INDEX-NUMBERS.			Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) compared with third Quarter of 1915.
		October to Dec., 1914.	July to Sept., 1915.	October to Dec., 1915.	
I. Metals and Coal ..	14	1,179	1,327	<b>1,360</b>	+ 2.4
II. Textiles, Leather, etc.	10	857	1,002	<b>1,181</b>	+ 17.9
III. Agricultural Produce	16	1,546	2,513	<b>1,751</b>	— 30.3
IV. Dairy Produce ..	9	1,083	1,758	<b>1,496</b>	— 14.9
V. Groceries & Tobacco	21	1,016	1,164	<b>1,198</b>	+ 2.9
VI. Meat .. ..	5	1,515	3,291	<b>2,492</b>	— 24.3
VII. Building Materials	10	1,086	1,329	<b>1,375</b>	+ 3.5
VIII. Chemicals .. ..	7	1,648	1,565	<b>1,514</b>	— 3.3
All groups* .. ..	92	1,225	1,822	<b>1,544</b>	— 15.3

\* Weighted Average.

The following table shews the respective average prices during the third and fourth quarters of 1915 of those commodities which have increased or decreased in price 10 per cent. or over, together with the percentage increases or decreases:—

**Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Average Prices during the Third and Fourth Quarters of 1915.**

Commodity.	Unit.	AVERAGE PRICE.		Percent- age Increase (+) or Decrease (—)
		3rd Qr. 1915.	4th Qr., 1915.	

GROUP I.—METALS AND COAL.

Iron, Plate .. .. .	ton	s. d. 305 0	s. d. 336 8	+ 10.4
Zinc, Sheet .. .. .	ton	1420 10	1866 8	+ .4

GROUP II.—TEXTILES, LEATHER, ETC.

Cotton, Raw .. .. .	lb.	0 5½	0 7 1/16	+ 28.4
Wool, Greasy .. .. .	lb.	0 9½	0 11 1/4	+ 18.4
Tallow .. .. .	ton	626 8	693 0	+ 10.0

Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Average Prices during the Third and Fourth Quarters  
of 1915—continued.

Commodity.	Unit.	AVERAGE PRICE.		Percent- age Increase (+) or Decrease (—)
		3rd Qr. 1915.	4th Qr., 1915.	

## GROUP III.—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

Wheat .. .. .	bushel	7 11	6 5	— 18.9
Flour .. .. .	ton	340 0	304 7	— 10.4
Bran .. .. .	„	157 0	84 10	— 46.0
Pollard .. .. .	„	179 9	131 0	— 27.1
Oats .. .. .	bushel	4 9	2 10	— 40.4
Oatmeal .. .. .	ton	565 0	480 0	— 15.0
Barley, English .. .. .	bushel	5 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 5	— 21.5
„ Cape .. .. .	„	4 10	2 11	— 39.7
Maize .. .. .	„	4 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	+ 10.6
Hay, Manger Trussed .. .. .	ton	225 4	137 9	— 38.9
Chaff .. .. .	„	267 9	136 3	— 49.1
Straw, Victorian .. .. .	„	105 8	89 4	— 15.5
Potatoes .. .. .	„	171 4	236 9	+ 38.2
Onions .. .. .	„	151 6	74 5	— 50.9

## GROUP IV.—DAIRY PRODUCE.

Ham .. .. .	lb.	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	+ 29.1
Bacon, Light Weight .. .. .	„	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 12.7
Cheese, Matured .. .. .	„	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4	+ 18.5
Butter .. .. .	„	1 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 28.2

## GROUP V.—GROCERIES AND TOBACCO.

Currants, Australian .. .. .	lb.	0 6	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 25.0
Herrings, Fresh .. .. .	doz. tins	7 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 0	+ 11.3
Sardines, Halves .. .. .	„	5 11	8 0	+ 35.2
Matches, Australian Safeties .. .. .	gross	4 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 17.8

## GROUP VI.—MEAT.

Beef .. .. .	100 lb.	s. d. 71 5	s. d. 50 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 29.0
Mutton .. .. .	lb.	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 24.1
Lamb .. .. .	„	0 7 $\frac{5}{16}$	0 5 $\frac{7}{8}$	— 19.7

## GROUP VII.—BUILDING MATERIALS.

Oregon .. .. .	1000 s.f.	178 4	199 2	+ 11.7
Cement .. .. .	cask	22 10	19 10	— 13.1

## GROUP VIII.—CHEMICALS.

Cream of Tartar .. .. .	lb.	2 2	1 11	— 11.5
Alum .. .. .	ton	240 0	273 4	+ 13.9

3. **Variations in Price Levels since the Outbreak of the War.**—The variations in the index-numbers of the separate commodity groups during the year 1915 and up to the end of February, 1916, are shewn in the following table, in which the index-numbers are given for each month specified, taking July, 1914, the last month before the outbreak of war, as base (= 1000) for each group :—

**Melbourne Wholesale Prices.—Index-Numbers, July 1914, and January 1915 to February 1916.**

Particulars.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Textiles, Leather, etc.	III. Agricultural Produce, etc.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups
July, 1914	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
January 1915	1,077	804	1,641	958	1,029	1,085	991	1,489	1,162
February "	1,086	815	1,786	1,008	1,040	1,009	1,002	1,489	1,199
March "	1,101	895	1,982	1,039	1,052	1,052	1,051	1,489	1,280
April "	1,122	908	2,172	1,213	1,062	1,109	1,076	1,432	1,362
May "	1,135	885	2,246	1,433	1,064	1,436	1,143	1,401	1,453
June "	1,150	883	2,421	1,477	1,065	1,617	1,172	1,581	1,534
July "	1,191	887	2,579	1,560	1,100	1,927	1,198	1,581	1,640
August "	1,207	883	2,339	1,557	1,148	2,210	1,215	1,503	1,625
September "	1,209	969	2,088	1,292	1,134	1,982	1,228	1,465	1,514
October "	1,221	1,038	2,100	1,296	1,157	1,704	1,252	1,446	1,494
November "	1,231	1,089	1,611	1,235	1,153	1,427	1,250	1,439	1,328
December "	1,255	1,131	1,164	1,202	1,170	1,485	1,267	1,559	1,229
January 1916	1,302	1,230	1,299	1,153	1,191	1,537	1,282	1,560	1,294
February "	1,330	1,212*	1,268	1,253	1,225*	1,639	1,288	1,576	1,316*

\* Subject to slight revision.

## SECTION VI.—INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.

1. **General.**—In Labour Report No. 5 (Section XI., Strikes and Lock-outs, pp. 70-2) a complete review was given (a) as to the methods adopted for the collection of information regarding industrial disputes, and (b) as to the definitions and explanations of the terms, "Strike" and "Lock-out."\*

In recording the number of working days lost, the particulars given in the tables refer to the aggregate number of working days, exclusive of holiday: and Sundays (except in those instances where continuous shifts are provided for) on which the persons involved in a dispute may have been employed. No allowance can, of course, be made for the possibility of short time during that period. This provision, if applied to coal mining, would possibly considerably reduce the number of working days considered as lost. Further, it is assumed in all instances that work is constant, and that had no dispute occurred the persons taking part therein would have been continuously employed. It is known, that in some instances, e.g., shearing, sugar cane cutting, etc., that the amount of employment is limited, and the refusal to commence work on any specified date does not materially reduce the length of employment. These several features are also applicable to the particulars given with respect to the "Estimated Loss in Wages." In the following table particulars are given for each State and for all States, in quarterly

\* For the purpose of these investigations a strike is defined as a concerted withdrawal from work by a part or all of the employees of an establishment, or of several establishments, with a view to enforcing a demand on the part of the employees, or of resisting some demand made by their employers. A lockout is a refusal on the part of an employer, or several employers, to permit a part or all of the employees to continue at work, such refusal being made to enforce a demand on the part of the employers, or to resist some demand made by their employees. Under these definitions certain stoppages of work are excluded, such for example as stop-work meetings and stoppages in which the relation of employer and employee does not exist.

periods of the years 1913, 1914, and 1915 respectively, of (a) the number of new disputes; (b) the number of establishments involved therein; (c) the number of workpeople involved, directly and indirectly; (d) the number of working days lost in new and old disputes; and (e) the estimated loss in wages.

It will be noted that the annual totals for each State and for the Commonwealth are set out therein for the years 1913 and 1914, but not for the year 1915. In explanation thereof it is pointed out that the annual figures represent the particulars relating to industrial disputes commenced in each year, after eliminating from the quarterly figures those relating to a dispute commenced in the preceding year, and by adding thereto the number of working days lost in any succeeding year, in respect to a dispute commenced before the beginning of that year. For this reason the summation of the quarterly figures will not necessarily agree with the annual figures.

**Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude for each State and Territory.**  
**Comparative particulars for each Quarter, 1913, 1914 and 1915.**

Periods.		No. of New Disputes.	No. of establishments involved in New Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost. All Disputes.			Total Estimated loss in Wages. £
				Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.	
NEW SOUTH WALES.										
1st Quarter, 1913	..	25	41	10,030	1,291	11,321	88,370	..	88,370	39,266
2nd " 1913	..	35	42	5,398	7,809	13,207	82,221	133,100	215,321	104,585
3rd " 1913	..	35	301	5,181	4,226	9,407	62,646	21,520	84,166	35,823
4th " 1913	..	39	82	5,038	1,038	6,076	49,242	10,880	60,122	28,794
Total, 1913	..	134	466	25,647	14,364	40,011	282,479	165,500	†468,957	†216,368
1st Quarter, 1914	..	70	714	13,000	8,557	21,557	184,901	19,978	204,879	103,114
2nd " 1914	..	51	69	6,167	5,088	11,255	115,589	11,648	127,237	62,506
3rd " 1914	..	49	60	5,421	3,650	9,071	26,935	170,907	197,842	99,497
4th " 1914	..	65	65	9,367	5,031	14,398	45,756	152,012	197,768	98,209
Total, 1914	..	235	908	33,955	22,326	56,281	373,181	354,545	†836,948	†419,656
1st Quarter, 1915	..	58	70	8,923	4,869	13,792	52,308	129,200	181,508	92,472
2nd " 1915	..	31	36	3,426	3,143	6,569	34,810	82,639	117,449	63,075
3rd " 1915	..	69	69	11,344	5,661	17,005	58,957	22,465	81,422	44,998
4th " 1915	..	114	519	23,299	8,949	32,248	168,527	16,234	184,761	91,731
VICTORIA.										
1st Quarter, 1913	..	6	12	962	7	969	2,413	2,200	4,613	2,225
2nd " 1913	..	5	7	1,967	10	1,977	11,553	..	11,553	4,639
3rd " 1913	..	10	28	758	524	1,282	14,152	19,990	34,142	14,052
4th " 1913	..	8	16	464	1,485	1,949	3,771	23,508	27,279	11,680
Total, 1913	..	29	63	4,151	2,026	6,177	31,889	45,698	†85,212	†35,744
1st Quarter, 1914	..	19	58	4,137	808	4,945	27,998	9,826	37,824	18,272
2nd " 1914	..	12	93	998	47	1,045	34,708	11,170	45,918	20,944
3rd " 1914	..	8	8	410	490	900	6,091	3,150	9,241	4,154
4th " 1914	..	5	5	154	7	161	949	..	949	377
Total, 1914	..	44	164	5,699	1,352	7,051	69,746	24,146	†84,106	†39,619
1st Quarter, 1915	..	3	3	735	7	742	2,467	..	2,467	1,438
2nd " 1915	..	5	5	1,446	48	1,494	25,928	..	25,928	10,935
3rd " 1915	..	10	28	455	69	524	2,570	2,952	5,522	2,375
4th " 1915	..	20	118	2,798	685	3,483	29,761	..	29,761	13,083

Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude for each State and Territory.  
Comparative particulars for each Quarter, 1913, 1914 and 1915—*cont.*

Periods.	No. of New Disputes.	No. of establishments involved in New Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost. All Disputes.			Total Estimated loss in Wages. £
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.	
QUEENSLAND.									
1st Quarter, 1913	3	3	183	127	310	2,900	19,000	21,900	9,675
2nd " 1913	2	3	1,310	89	1,310	29,660	5,600	35,260	19,750
3rd " 1913	7	7	173	9	262	818	17,060	17,878	7,047
4th " 1913	5	7	115	9	124	2,140	..	2,140	1,212
Total, 1913	17	20	1,781	225	2,006	35,518	41,660	77,178	48,884
1st Quarter, 1914	4	4	307	33	340	1,713	2,250	3,963	2,131
2nd " 1914	11	35	490	371	861	9,610	2,920	12,530	5,883
3rd " 1914	2	2	474	2	476	5,206	5,564	10,770	4,873
4th " 1914	1	1	9	..	9	594	..	594	289
Total, 1914	18	42	1,280	406	1,686	17,123	10,734	27,857	13,582
1st Quarter, 1915	4	18	125	84	209	594	657	1,251	600
2nd " 1915	2	4	134	19	153	1,545	663	2,208	975
3rd " 1915	5	11	593	458	1,051	13,003	..	13,003	6,476
4th " 1915	6	6	625	28	653	3,745	..	3,745	1,593
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.									
1st Quarter, 1913	1	1	10	6	16	208	..	208	75
2nd " 1913	2	2	18	..	18	206	..	206	91
3rd " 1913	3	7	55	..	55	404	..	404	188
4th " 1913	3	3	189	10	199	1,594	..	1,594	675
Total, 1913	9	13	272	16	288	2,412	..	2,412	1,029
1st Quarter, 1914	7	15	431	360	791	3,749	..	3,749	1,761
2nd " 1914	3	27	71	195	266	10,815	..	10,815	5,578
3rd " 1914	2	2	71	20	91	215	195	410	185
4th " 1914	1	1	43	..	43	301	..	301	173
Total, 1914	13	45	616	575	1,191	15,080	195	15,275	7,697
1st Quarter, 1915	1	1	150	..	150	900	..	900	470
2nd " 1915	7	7	206	15	221	1,525	..	1,525	762
3rd " 1915	3	3	436	44	480	2,270	170	2,440	1,215
4th " 1915	4	14	522	110	632	15,012	..	15,012	11,995
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.									
1st Quarter, 1913	3	318	587	..	587	4,550	5,720	10,270	4,604
2nd " 1913	2	2	140	..	140	440	..	440	259
3rd " 1913	2	2	117	..	117	309	..	309	157
4th " 1913	2	2	123	..	123	1,473	..	1,473	595
Total, 1913	9	324	967	..	967	6,772	5,720	12,492	5,515
1st Quarter, 1914	9	10	701	238	939	7,284	..	7,284	3,949
2nd " 1914	4	4	291	3,033	3,324	89,875	18,916	108,791	61,082
3rd " 1914	2	2	90	2	92	214	7,560	7,774	5,328
4th " 1914	3	3	35	19	54	326	..	326	193
Total, 1914	18	19	1,117	3,292	4,409	97,699	26,476	124,175	70,552
1st Quarter, 1915	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2nd " 1915	5	10	528	18	546	3,468	..	3,468	2,114
3rd " 1915	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4th " 1915	1	10	50	50	100	600	..	600	180

**Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude for each State and Territory.**  
**Comparative particulars for each Quarter, 1913, 1914 and 1915—cont.**

Periods.	No. of New Disputes.	No. of establishments involved in New Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost. All Disputes.			Total Estimated loss in Wages.*
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.	
TASMANIA.									
1st Quarter, 1913	1	1	11	20	31	160	..	160	42
2nd " 1913	2	2	8	..	8	22	..	22	9
3rd " 1913	2	5	350	..	350	520	..	520	296
4th " 1913	3	22	75	..	75	285	..	285	87
Total, 1913	8	30	444	20	464	987	..	987	434
1st Quarter, 1914	3	16	152	13	165	2,102	..	2,102	995
2nd " 1914	2	5	108	..	108	1,104	..	1,104	422
3rd " 1914	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4th " 1914	1	1	28	12	40	80	..	80	42
Total, 1914	6	22	288	25	313	3,286	..	3,286	1,459
1st Quarter, 1915	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2nd " 1915	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3rd " 1915	2	2	922	..	922	4,698	..	4,698	2,118
4th " 1915†	..	..	..	..	..	..	110	..	56
NORTHERN TERRITORY.									
2nd Quarter, 1913	1	4	131	39	170	2,500	..	2,500	1,675
4th " 1913	2	2	68	..	68	552	..	552	348
1st " 1915	1	1	39	..	39	39	..	39	25
2nd " 1915	1	1	55	12	67	268	..	268	140
3rd " 1915	1	1	64	16	80	480	..	480	390
4th " 1915	4	4	96	16	112	4,315	..	4,315	1,771
FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY.									
3rd Quarter, 1913	1	1	100	100	200	1,400	..	1,400	600
1st " 1914	1	1	50	..	50	350	..	350	170
3rd " 1915	1	1	20	..	20	80	..	80	55
COMMONWEALTH.									
1st Quarter, 1913	39	376	11,783	1,451	13,234	98,601	26,920	125,521	55,887
2nd " 1913	49	62	8,972	7,858	16,830	126,602	138,700	265,302	131,008
3rd " 1913	60	351	6,734	4,939	11,673	80,249	58,570	138,819	58,163
4th " 1913	60	132	6,004	2,542	8,546	58,505	34,388	92,893	43,043
Total for 1913	208	921	33,493	16,790	50,283	363,957	258,578	†623,528	†287,739
1st Quarter, 1914	113	818	18,778	10,009	28,787	228,097	32,054	260,151	130,392
2nd " 1914	83	233	8,125	8,734	16,859	261,741	44,654	306,395	156,415
3rd " 1914	63	74	6,466	4,164	10,630	38,661	187,376	226,037	114,037
4th " 1914	78	78	9,704	5,069	14,773	48,558	152,012	200,570	99,631
Total for 1914	337	1,203	43,073	27,976	71,049	577,057	416,096	†993,153	†500,475
1st Quarter, 1915	67	93	9,972	4,960	14,932	56,308	129,857	186,165	95,005
2nd " 1915	51	63	5,795	3,255	9,050	67,544	83,302	150,846	78,001
3rd " 1915	91	115	13,834	6,248	20,082	82,058	25,587	107,645	56,727
4th " 1915	149	671	27,390	9,838	37,228	221,960	16,344	238,304	120,409

\* Total estimated loss during the respective periods for all disputes, new and old.

† Adjusted figures relating to the total number of working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages in connection with industrial disputes which originated during the year.

‡ Particulars relate to a dispute commenced in the preceding quarter.

|| No disputes were recorded, for these Territories in any quarter other than those specified.



The annual figures for the year 1915 are in course of compilation, and will be included in a Labour Report to be published at an early date.

**2. Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes in each State and Territory—Fourth Quarter, 1915.**—The following table gives particulars of the number of establishments and workpeople involved, etc., in new industrial disputes which began during the fourth quarter of the year 1915, together with the number of working days lost during that quarter as a result of industrial disputes which began prior to, but which had not terminated, at the beginning of fourth quarter of 1915, and the estimated total loss in wages incurred during the quarter through both new disputes and those which were in progress at the end of the preceding quarter. In addition thereto comparative particulars are given, in respect of the Commonwealth only, for the preceding quarter of 1915 and the corresponding quarter of 1914:—

**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.—Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes in Each State and Territory of the Commonwealth, 4th Quarter 1915, and Comparative Particulars for the preceding Quarter and the corresponding Quarter 1914.**

State or Territory.	No. of New Disputes	No. of Establishments Involved in New Disputes	No. of Workpeople Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages *£	
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	New Disputes.	Old Disputes.	Total.		
New South Wales .. ..	114	519	23,299	8,949	32,248	168,527	16,234	184,761	91,731	
Victoria .. ..	20	118	2,798	685	3,483	29,761	..	29,761	13,083	
Queensland .. ..	6	6	625	28	683	3,745	..	3,745	1,593	
South Australia .. ..	4	14	522	110	632	15,012	..	15,012	11,995	
Western Australia .. ..	1	10	50	50	100	600	..	600	180	
Tasmania .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	110	110	56	
Northern Territory .. ..	4	4	96	16	112	4,315	..	4,315	1,771	
Fed. Cap. Territory .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total C'wealth.	4th Quarter, 1915	149	671	27,390	9,838	37,228	221,960	16,344	238,304	120,409
	3rd Quarter, 1915	91	115	13,834	6,248	20,082	82,058	25,587	107,645	56,727
	4th Quarter, 1914	78	78	9,704	15,063	14,773	48,558	152,012	200,570	99,631

\* Total loss during the quarter for all disputes, new and old.

New disputes recorded during the fourth quarter of 1915 numbered 149, or 36 in excess of the largest number recorded in any one quarter during the three years in which this information has been collected by this Bureau. The number of persons involved, either directly or indirectly, in these new disputes reached an aggregate of 37,228. New and old disputes together entailed a loss of 238,304 working days, and an estimated loss of wages totalling £120,409. Of these latter figures 16,344 working days and £8615 in wages were lost in connection with disputes which originated prior to the 1st October, 1915.

**3. Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes, Classified according to Industrial Groups, 4th Quarter, 1915.**—In the following table particulars are given of new disputes which began during the quarter under review, classified according to industrial groups, together with information as to the number of working days lost and the estimated loss in wages, for both new and old disputes in progress during that quarter. The industrial classification is that adopted in connection with labour organisations, unemployment, current rates of wages and changes therein, etc. (see Labour Report No. 5, page 6.) Corresponding particulars of industrial disputes in each of the preceding quarters of 1913, 1914, and 1915 respectively, have been published in Labour Bulletins Nos. 1 to 11, inclusive.

**Industrial Disputes.—Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes in the Commonwealth, classified in Industrial Groups, 4th Quarter, 1915.**

Industrial Group.	No. of New Disputes.	No. of Establishments Involved	No. of Work-people Involved in New Disputes.			No. of Working Days Lost.			Total Estimated Loss in Wages *£
			Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.	Total	New Dis-putes.	Old Dis-putes.	Total.	
I. Wood, Furniture, Timber, etc. . .	3	10	369	..	369	3,571	3,100	6,671	3,367
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	15	62	2,614	110	2,724	31,221	..	31,221	16,629
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	8	378	1,449	1,900	3,349	26,721	..	26,721	8,570
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	1	1	360	..	360	8,640	..	8,640	2,300
VI. Other Manufacturing. . .	12	23	2,656	1,100	3,756	26,438	..	26,438	13,204
VII. Building . . .	6	6	277	..	277	573	..	573	310
VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc. . .	69	78	13,084	5,548	18,632	67,126	10,246	77,372	44,644
IX. Railway and Tramway Services . .	16	19	3,474	651	4,125	26,956	2,888	29,844	18,970
X. Other Land Transport . .	1	6	24	..	24	96	..	96	43
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. . .	7	25	1,964	72	2,036	11,056	110	11,166	5,057
XII. Agric'l. Pastoral, etc. .	3	12	71	68	139	1,389	..	1,389	508
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. .	1	1	41	4	45	3,105	..	3,105	890
XIV. Miscellaneous . . .	7	50	1,007	85	1,392	15,068	..	15,068	5,917
All Groups . . .	149	671	27,390	9,838	37,228	221,960	16,344	238,304	120,409

\* Total loss during the quarter for all disputes, new and old.

Of the total number of new disputes (149) which began during the fourth quarter of the year 1915, 69, or nearly 47 per cent., occurred in Mining and other industries coming within the Industrial Classification Group VIII. These disputes involved (directly and indirectly) 18,632 workpeople, and entailed a loss of 67,126 working days, and £38,625 in wages. Other disputes (within this industrial classification) which had remained unsettled at the end of the preceding quarter of the year accounted for a loss of 10,246 working days in the quarter under review, and £6019 in wages. The industrial classes to which the next highest number of disputes are classified, were Groups IX. (Railway and Tramway Services), II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.), and VI. (Other Manufacturing), and the numbers of disputes so classified were 16, 15, and 12 respectively. The remaining number of disputes (37) were classi-

fied as follows. Groups III. (Food, Drink, etc.), 8, XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XIV. (Miscellaneous) 7 each, VII. (Building) 6, I. (Wood Working, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.) 3 each, and one each in groups IV. (Clothing), X. (other Land Transport), and XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.).

An analysis of the particulars furnished in the above table will shew that the proportion of the numbers of workers involved, in disputes in the mining industry was approximately equal to those involved in all other disputes, but the average duration of each dispute was considerably less. New disputes in Industrial Group VIII. (69) had an average duration of somewhat less than four days each, whereas disputes in the other Industrial Groups had an average duration of slightly over eight working days each.

**4. Particulars of Principal Disputes recorded during the Fourth Quarter 1915.**—Summarised particulars are furnished in tabular form (on pages 375 to 385 herein) of all disputes recorded during the fourth quarter of 1915, together with additional particulars of those disputes which began during the third quarter of 1915, but had not been settled at the end of that quarter. These particulars comprise summarised information for each dispute as to the following matters, viz.:—(a) The locality, industry, and occupations affected; (b) the number of work-people involved directly and indirectly; (c) the dates of commencement and termination; (d) alleged cause or object; and (e) result. In the following paragraphs additional information is given regarding disputes during the quarter under review.

(i.) *New South Wales.*—Two of the four industrial disputes which remained unsettled at the 30th September, 1915,\* viz., those involving wheelers and surface hands (Dudley Colliery) and sleeper cutters (Bermagui, and other places) were concluded during the period under review. The remaining two, which affected labourers on railway construction work (Black Creek) and miners and others (Richmond Main Colliery), were still unsettled at 31st December, 1915.

Industrial Group VIII. (Mining, Quarrying, etc.) again claimed the majority of the 114 industrial disputes which began in this State during the quarter under review. Of the 68 disputes which occurred in industries coming within that classification 65 were in connection with coal mining—40 in the Northern, 23 in the Southern, and 2 in the Western districts. The remaining three were made up of two disputes at Broken Hill, one of which involved about 1500 underground workmen,† in connection with a refusal to work the Saturday afternoon shift, and remained unsettled at the end of the quarter, and one at the Mouramba Copper Mines at Nymagee. Of the 40 disputes in the Northern Colliery district, 9 occurred at the Pelaw Main Colliery, 5 at the Stockton-Borehole, 4 at the Hebburn, 3 at the Bellbird, 2 each at the Abermain No. 2,

\* See Labour Bulletin No. 11, page 236. † In this instance although the stoppage of work was not continuous, but involved a loss of work on a number of consecutive Saturday afternoons, the dispute being continued in respect of a definite claim, viz., the reduction of working hours from 48 to 44 per week, has been recorded as one dispute only.

West Wallsend, Seaham No. 2, and the Burwood Collieries, and one each at the following collieries:—Glebe, Lymington, Hebburn No. 2, Jesmond, Shortland, Aberdare (central and south respectively), Dudley, Central Greta, East Greta, and Cardiff. Of the 23 disputes in the Southern district, eight occurred at the South Clifton Colliery at Scarborough, three each at the Bulli, South Bulli, and the South Clifton Tunnel, two each at the Bellambi and the Metropolitan (one still unsettled at the end of the quarter), and one at each of the following collieries, Wallarah and Corrimall-Balgownie. In the Western district one dispute occurred at the Oakey Park Colliery, and one at the Main Range Colliery, Pipers Flat. With the exception of four, each of the above-mentioned disputes were of comparatively short duration, in most instances involving a loss of only one day's work. The exceptions were at the Aberdare Central and South, where miners doing shaft sinking claimed, successfully, extra wages for that class of work; at Oakey Park, where wheelers claimed to be paid on tonnage instead of a time rate, and at the Lymington Colliery, where machine miners stopped work during the period required to remedy certain defective electric machines. Of the remaining 46 new disputes recorded, 11 were classified under Group IX. (Railway and Tramway Transport); 10 under Group VI. (Other Manufacturing); 9 under Group II. (Engineering, Metalworking, etc.); 3 each under Groups I. (Woodworking, etc.); III. (Food, Drink, etc.); VII. (Building); and XI. (Shipping, etc.); 2 under Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), and 1 each under Groups IV. (Clothing, Boots, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.).

The more important of these disputes, in point of number of workers involved (1000 and over) were those connected with the brewing and allied industries (Group III.), wheat lumpers employed loading vessels, (Group XI.), and ironworkers' assistants at the works of the Broken Hill Proprietary Limited at Port Waratah (Group II.). In connection with the last mentioned dispute, it should be pointed out that the stoppage of work occurred owing to a refusal by certain employees to work the Sunday shift, and although continued for a number of consecutive Sundays, the dispute has been recorded as one only. The dispute did not, however, involve a total cessation of work, owing to a sufficient number of men being available to execute absolutely necessary requirements at the works.

"Wage questions" were reported as the cause of 38 of the 114 industrial disputes, while the remaining number were made up of various claims under the following classified causes; 28 as to "working conditions"; 14 as to "employment of persons"; 10 as to "trade union questions"; 4 as to "hours of employment"; 3 in sympathy with other disputants, and 17 classified under miscellaneous causes.

In 110 instances the disputes were concluded and a settlement reached during the quarter under review. The remaining 4 disputes were unsettled at the end of the year 1915. These 4 disputes comprised blacksmiths, engineers, and others employed by the Broken Hill Proprietary Limited (Port Waratah); coal miners at the Metropolitan Colliery (Helensburgh); underground workers on Saturday afternoon shift (Broken Hill); and coopers in the employ of several manufacturing firms (Sydney and Hunter River district).

Settlements of industrial disputes were recorded as follows:—On a basis favourable to the workers in 55 instances, in favour of the employers in 22 instances, by compromise in 20 instances, and on indefinite terms in 13 instances.

(ii.) *Victoria*.—The number of disputes recorded in this State during the period under review was 20. Of these 4 each occurred in industries classified in Groups II., XI., and XIV. (Engineering, etc., Shipping and Wharf Labouring, and Miscellaneous respectively); 2 each in Groups III. and VI. (Food, Drink, etc., and Other Manufacturing); and 1 in each of the following:—Groups VII. (Building), VIII. (Mining, etc.), IX. (Rail and Tramway Services), and X. (Other Land Transport). The most important of these in point of number of workpeople involved were those affecting the engineering and allied trades, and the storemen and packers in wool, grain, and skin stores. In point of duration those affecting moulders employed at Messrs. Gray Bros., Williamstown (still unsettled at the end of December, 1915); conduit workers employed in connection with underground telephone communication; machine miners at the State Coal Mine, Wonthaggi, engineers employed on ammunition work by Messrs. G. Weymouth Limited, and storemen and packers in the wool, grain, and skin stores, were the most important. Apart from those mentioned, the disputes in this State were small and comparatively unimportant.

Twelve disputes occurred in connection with the refusal on the part of employers to concede claims relating to wages, three each as to working conditions and union matters, and one each to alleged victimisation and sympathy with other disputants. In 10 instances the disputes were settled on terms favourable to the employees, in five instances work was resumed on antecedent conditions; in four a compromise was effected by referring the matters in dispute to other tribunals, and one was still unsettled at the end of the quarter.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—Six disputes in this State were recorded during the fourth quarter of the year 1915. All were however brought to a settlement within that period except one, which involved 11 workmen employed by the Ayr Shire Council. The most important of these disputes in point of numbers of workpeople involved, were those which affected boiler-makers and fitters at Toowoomba, who objected to work with certain enemy aliens, and slaughtermen and others at the Ross River Meat Preserving works, who successfully claimed that the union official permit should be recognised by the employers. Excepting the claim for an increased rate of wage made by the Ayr Shire Council employees, no dispute involved a stoppage of work extending beyond six days. In one instance, however, a claim by certain shearers and other employees for payment of the return fare to work at Warenda Station, Winton, although contrary to the subsisting award of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, resulted after a period of 27 working days, in the claim being conceded, but not to the team of workers who originally made it.

(iv.) *South Australia*.—In this State four disputes were recorded during the period under review, two of which involved workers employed on the East-West Trans-Australian Railway Construction work, and one each in connection with the aerated water trade and with slaughtering for export. Of the two disputes on the East-West Railway, one, in which a number of locomotive enginedrivers demanded the reinstatement of a driver who had been disrated, was unsuccessful, while the other, in which a number of platelayers claimed to be paid for time lost in connection with work on certain earthworks, was successful. Notwithstanding that

payment was made in accordance with this latter claim, the workers dispersed and the works were closed down on the 18th December, and remained closed until the expiration of the Christmas and New Year holidays. It has been reported that, during the 40 days' period that this dispute remained unsettled, a number of the persons involved left the works to take up harvesting, and consequently upon a settlement being reached there were an insufficient number on hand to reopen the work.

The dispute in connection with the aerated water trade was to enforce compliance with a demand for a reduction of working hours. After a stoppage of one-half day the claim was conceded pending an award of the Industrial Court, to which tribunal the matter was referred. That in connection with the slaughtering for export industry was due to the refusal of a demand for an increase in the rate for slaughtering lambs from 27s. 6d. to 30s. per 100. During the period of the dispute the matter was referred to the Minister of Industry, who subsequently was successful in inducing the men to return to work upon the employers undertaking to make any increase, which may be awarded on the plaint now before the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, retrospective to the date of re-commencing work.

(v.) *Western Australia*.—In this State one dispute only (which involved certain non-unionist workers employed at chaffcutting at Kellerberrin), was recorded during the last quarter of 1915. The dispute lasted for six days, and resulted in the claim for an increase in the daily rate of wage being granted.

(vi.) *Tasmania*.—The dispute which involved the question as to the right of any member of the crew of a vessel being employed as winchman for the purpose of discharging cargo, and which remained unsettled in this State at the 30th September, 1915, was settled early in the fourth quarter of that year. Apart from this, no other dispute was recorded during the period under review.

(vii.) *Territories*.—Four disputes in the Northern Territory were recorded during the fourth quarter of 1915. All of these, although not involving any substantial number of workers, were somewhat protracted before the disputes were settled, and in one instance (employees in the State Hotels) was not concluded until early in the current year. Two disputes were in connection with railway work, one involved engineers and others employed at the construction of meat freezing works, and the fourth was due to the employees in the State hotels resisting a reduction, the Administrator of the Territory proposed to make in the log of wages introduced by the supervisor of hotels, on the premises and businesses being taken over by the Commonwealth Government.

No dispute within the Federal Capital Territory was recorded during the fourth quarter of 1915.

## Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<b>New South Wales.</b>					
<i>Black Creek.</i> Railway Construction.— Labourers.	*	*	17th May	Men paid 9s. per day as labourers; claimed pay as shaft sinkers and timbermen.	Pending at end of December.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Richmond Main Colliery—Miners.	†	†	20th Aug.	Objection to tonnage rates.	Pending at end of December.
<i>Bermagui.</i> Sleeper Cutting.— Sleeper Cutters.	‡	‡	20th Sept. to 8th Nov.	Claim for increase of 4d. per sleeper.	Increase of 2d. per sleeper granted.
<i>Dudley.</i> Dudley Colliery— Wheelers & Others.	‡	‡	27th Sept. to 2nd Oct.	Wheelers claimed payment for overtime.	Work resumed, question referred to conference.
<i>Glenreagh-Dorrigo.</i> Railway Construction— Tunnel Miners.	40	300	2nd Oct. to 9th Oct.	Reduction of working hours of miners doing tunnelling, to 8 hours bank to bank.	Claim conceded when working two shifts.
<i>Broken Hill.</i> Metalliferous Mining Underground Workers.	1,500	—	2nd Oct.	Refusal to work the Saturday afternoon shift.	Pending at the end of December.
<i>Telegraph Pt.</i> Railway Construction— Labourers.	205	128	4th Oct. to 11th Oct.	Refusal of gangers to join the Railway Workers & General Labourers Association.	Gangers joined the Association. Work resumed.
<i>Weston.</i> Hebburn Colliery— No. 2 Tunnel— Miners.	132	..	4th Oct. to 5th Oct.	No. 1 Tunnel incorrectly reported to have been idle.	Work resumed.
<i>Broken Hill.</i> Metalliferous Mining Miners.	40	..	5th Oct. to 10th Oct.	Protest against short time employment.	Management promised full time when possible. Work resumed.
<i>Helensburgh.</i> Metropolitan Colliery— Miners & Others.	390	..	5th Oct. to 6th Oct.	Refusal to pay compensation for deficient places.	Compensation paid, and work resumed.
<i>Louth.</i> Kallara Station— Shearers.	11	..	5th Oct. to 8th Oct.	Demand for adjustment of alleged defective machinery.	Men's places filled by other shearers.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Stn. Clifton Tunnel Colliery— Wheelers & Others.	74	156	6th Oct. to 8th Oct.	Payment for lost time.	Work resumed unconditionally.
<i>Lithgow.</i> G. & C. Hoskins— Ironworkers.	30	..	6th Oct.	Reinstatement of employees already dismissed.	Work resumed after loss of 5½ hours, on antecedent conditions.
<i>Cessnock.</i> Bellbird Colliery— Miners.	164	118	6th Oct. to 7th Oct.	Objection to use certain explosives.	Other explosives supplied.

\* See Labour Bulletin, No. 10, page 156, and No. 11, page 239. † See Labour Bulletin No. 11, page 241. ‡ See Labour Bulletin, No. 11, page 241.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Broken Hill.</i> Bread Baking— Bakers.	26	..	7th Oct. to 8th Oct.	Demand for extra holiday following 8 Hours Day.	Work resumed.
<i>Cessnock.</i> Bellbird Colliery— Shaft-sinkers.	164	118	11th Oct. to 18th Oct.	Objection to use certain explosives.	Other explosives supplied.
<i>Merewether.</i> Glebe Colliery— Miners & Others.	13	190	11th Oct.	Objection to person appointed as weighman.	Work resumed unconditionally.
<i>Wallsend.</i> West Wallsend Colliery— Miners and Others.	370	80	12th Oct. to 13th Oct.	Reinstatement of a boy, already dismissed.	Boy reinstated and work resumed.
<i>Weston.</i> Hebburn Colliery— Wheelers.	21	334	13th Oct. to 15th Oct.	Refusal to use a certain horse supplied.	Horse replaced and work resumed.
<i>Teralba.</i> Stockton-Borehole Colliery— Miners.	200	..	14th Oct. to 15th Oct.	Objection to work places cavilled to other parties.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Cardiff.</i> Lymington Colliery. Machine Miners.	60	22	14th Oct. to 1st Nov.	Objection to use defective machines.	Repairs effected and work resumed.
<i>Cockatoo Island.</i> Naval Dockyard.— Painters and Dockers.	300	..	14th Oct. to 16th Oct.	Demand for time off and material for hand cleansing.	Demand conceded.
<i>Weston.</i> Hebburn Colliery— Miners.	370	..	15th Oct. to 16th Oct.	Insufficient number of hands reported for work.	Work resumed.
<i>Broken Hill.</i> Globe Saw Mills— Sawyers & Others.	49	..	16th Oct. to 20th Oct.	Reinstatement of certain employees.	Demand conceded and work resumed.
<i>Bulli.</i> Bulli Colliery— Deputies & Others.	5	252	18th Oct. to 19th Oct.	Deputies objected to do shift work.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Adamstown.</i> Burwood Colliery— Miners.	9	268	18th Oct. to 20th Oct.	Objection to miners being put on surface work.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Wallsend.</i> West Wallsend Colliery— Wheelers & Miners.	20	430	19th Oct. to 24th Oct.	Demand for increased tonnage rates to wheelers.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Oakey Park.</i> Oakey Park Colliery— Wheelers.	5	115	19th Oct. to 6th Nov.	Claim for change from weekly to contract rates.	Demand conceded.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery. Miners and Wheelers.	450	..	19th Oct. to 20th Oct.	Protest against anticipated increase in rates not being paid.	Work resumed unconditionally.



Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Abermain.</i> Abermain No. 2 Colliery—Miners.	270	..	19th Oct. to 20th Oct.	Men absented themselves to hear a Court case against fellow worker.	Work resumed.
<i>Cessnock.</i> Bellbird Colliery—Miners.	164	118	19th Oct. to 21st Oct.	Objection to use certain explosive.	Other explosive supplied.
<i>Catherine Hill Bay.</i> Wallarrah Colliery—Miners.	240	..	20th Oct. to 28th Oct.	Reinstatement of a worker threatened with dismissal.	Assurance given and work resumed.
<i>New Lambton.</i> Shortland Colliery—Machine Men.	33	17	20th Oct. to 2nd Nov.	Dispute between miners & machine men.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>West Wallsend.</i> Seaham No. 2 Colliery—Wheelers.	18	375	20th Oct. to 25th Oct.	Increase in tonnage rate.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Port of Sydney.</i> Waterside Working Coal Lumpers.	1,600	..	21st Oct. to 29th Oct.	Demand for increase in hourly rate of wage.	Work resumed. Conference resulted in an increase from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. per hour.
<i>Casula Military Camp.</i> Building.—Bricklayers and Others.	80	..	22nd Oct. to 25th Oct.	Payment of fares for travelling to work.	Claim conceded.
<i>Teralba.</i> Stockton Borehole Colliery—Wheelers & Others.	204	..	21st Oct. to 22nd Oct.	Payment for unloading timber and increased wages.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Pelaw-Main Colliery. Miners.	672	..	22nd Oct. to 23rd Oct.	Rumoured a fellow-miner had been killed.	Work resumed.
<i>Marrickville.</i> Textile Manufacture Textile Workers.	360	..	22nd Oct. to 17th Nov.	Discrimination in the payment of a bonus.	Referred to Industrial Board. Work resumed.
<i>Glenreagh-Coffs Harb.</i> Railway Construction—Labourers.	36	..	25th Oct. to 28th Oct.	Refusal to work at award rates of wages.	Claim compromised.
<i>Teralba.</i> Stockton-Borehole Colliery—Wheelers.	204	..	23rd Oct. to 25th Oct.	Extra payment for unloading timber.	Special concession made of 3d. per skip.
<i>Scarborough.</i> South Clifton Colliery—Shiftmen.	13	180	25th Oct.	Objection to working short time.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Kitchener.</i> Aberdare Central.—Shaft-sinkers.	66	78	25th Oct.	Claim for increase in rate of wage.	Pending at end of December.
<i>Abernethy.</i> Aberdare South Colliery—Shaft-sinkers.	77	86	25th Oct.	Claim for increase in rate of wage.	Pending at end of December.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Kurri-Kurri.</i> Pelaw-Main Colliery—Miners.	40	360	25th Oct. to 26th Oct.	Whealers claimed increase in tonnage rates.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>West Wallsend.</i> Seaham No. 2 Colliery—Whealers.	18	375	26th Oct. to 29th Oct.	Increase in tonnage rate of wage.	Claim conceded.
<i>Dubbo.</i> Sleeper Cutting—Cutters & Carters.	235	..	29th Oct. to 15th Nov.	In sympathy with sleeper cutters on strike on North and South Coasts.	Work resumed on new agreement rates for cutting and squaring.
<i>Port Waratah.</i> Iron and Steel Working—Ironworkers' Assistants—	1000	..	30th Oct. to 26th Dec.	Refusal to work Sunday shift at award rate of wages.	Sunday work partly suspended pending reference of claim to Industrial Board.
<i>Manly.</i> Bread Baking—Bakers.	2	..	31st Oct. to 11th Dec.	Employment of non-unionists.	Men joined the union and work resumed.
<i>Bulli.</i> Bulli Colliery—Miners—	140	118	1st Nov. to 4th Nov.	Shiftmen refused to come off coal to do shiftwork.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Weston.</i> Hebburn Colliery—Miners.	24	330 ..	2nd Nov. to 3rd Nov.	Claim for full shift rates when on short time.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Greta.</i> Central Greta Colliery—Miners.	33	..	2nd Nov. to 4th Nov.	Employment of non-members of the Colliery Employees Federation.	Men agreed to join the Federation.
<i>Jesmond.</i> Jesmond Colliery—Miners.	25	..	2nd Nov. to 3rd Nov.	Refusal of shiftman to join the Employees' Federation.	Man joined the Federation.
<i>Scarborough.</i> South Clifton Colliery—Miners & Others.	159	29	3rd Nov. to 4th Nov.	Reinstatement of a boy already dismissed.	Boy reinstated, work resumed.
<i>Abbotsford.</i> Building—Carpenters.	36	..	3rd Nov. to 10th Nov.	Payment of award rate of wage for insulation work.	Claim conceded.
<i>Leichhardt-Rozelle.</i> Railway Construction—Labourers and Others.	305	63	4th Nov. to 6th Nov.	Refusal of ganger to join the Railway Workers' Association.	Ganger resigned.
<i>Dudley.</i> Dudley Colliery—Whealers and Miners.	20	250	4th Nov. to 6th Nov.	Demand for an extra screen.	Work resumed on compromised conditions.
<i>Camperdown.</i> Water Reticulation, Pipe Layers.	38	..	4th Nov. to 7th Nov.	Payment of fares incurred in travelling to the work.	Payment to be made to other than local men.
<i>Sydney &amp; Newcastle.</i> Liquor Trades—Brewery Hands and Others.	940	1,900	5th Nov. to 15th Nov.	Demand for increased rates of wage.	Increased rates of wage conceded.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Alexandria.</i> Structural Iron-working— Fitters and Others	35	7	5th Nov. to 8th Dec.	Demand for increased rates of wage.	Demands conceded.
<i>Marrickville-Glebe.</i> Railway Construction— Labourers and Others.	600	..	5th Nov. to 8th Nov.	Refusal of ganger to join the Railway Workers' Association.	Ganger resigned.
<i>Teralba.</i> Stockton-Borehole Colliery— Miners.	160	..	5th Nov. to 6th Nov.	Refusal to work places already cavilled to others.	Work resumed.
<i>Mosman.</i> Electric Supply— Electricians.	15	..	6th Nov. to 14th Nov.	Objection to work under a certain ganger.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Corrimal.</i> Corrimal-Balgownie Colliery— Wheelers and Others.	230	..	8th Nov. to 9th Nov.	Wheelers demanded work on pay Saturdays.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Cockatoo Island.</i> Navy Dockyard— Painters.	115	..	8th Nov. to 9th Nov.	Demarcation of work to Painters and Dockers.	Referred to Demarcation Board
<i>Portland.</i> Cement Manufacture Labourers and Others.	526	132	8th Nov. to 24th Nov.	Demand for increase of 1s. per day in rate of wage.	Work resumed. Claim remitted to Industrial Board.
<i>South Goulburn.</i> Railway Construction— Labourers.	20	..	9th Nov.	Reinstatement of an employee already dismissed.	Employee given work on another section of the work.
<i>Burwood.</i> Burwood Colliery— Miners & Wheelers.	256	..	10th Nov. to 16th Nov.	Objection to a non-unionist doing shunting.	Union men to do all shunting.
<i>Hexham.</i> Iron Working— Blacksmiths.	10	..	10th Nov.	Demarcation of work to be given to boilermakers.	Referred to Demarcation Committee.
<i>Scarborough.</i> South Clifton Colliery— Clippers.	156	3	11th Nov. to 12th Nov.	Dispute between clippers and wheelers.	Work resumed.
<i>Piper's Flat.</i> Main Range Colliery. Miners.	50	..	11th Nov. to 12th Nov.	Reinstatement of a boy already dismissed.	Boy employed elsewhere on the mine.
<i>Walsh Island.</i> State Workshops— Blacksmiths.	80	..	11th Nov. to 13th Nov.	Alleged insufficient ventilation.	Better ventilation being provided.
<i>Enfield.</i> Railway Construction— Labourers.	420	..	11th Nov. to 12th Nov.	Refusal to work with a non-unionist.	Non-unionist dismissed.
<i>Randwick.</i> Tramway Workshops— Engineers and Others.	290	..	11th Nov. to 20th Nov.	Demarcation of work between engineers and electricians.	Claim referred to arbitration.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Scarborough.</i> South Clifton Colliery—Miners.	178	10	12th Nov. to 15th Nov.	Refusal to use another road during repairs to the regular road.	Work resumed on completion of repairs.
<i>Teralba.</i> Stockton-Borehole Colliery—Miners.	200	..	15th Nov. to 16th Nov.	To enforce the payment by a miner of dues to the union.	Miner paid his dues and work resumed.
<i>Scarborough.</i> South Clifton Colliery—Miners.	192	4	16th Nov. to 17th Nov.	Refusal to do wheeling.	Referred to a joint Committee.
<i>Greta.</i> East Greta Colliery. Miners.	96	3	16th Nov. to 18th Nov.	Refusal of a miner to work in a place other than that cavilled for.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Waterloo.</i> Glass Bottle Making. Blowers' Assistants.	200	600	16th Nov. to 23rd Nov.	Increase of 6d. per day.	Increase granted.
<i>Bellambi.</i> Fireclay Brickworks. Burners & Others.	40	..	22nd Nov. to 24th Nov.	Increase in rate of wage of 1s. per day.	Claim remitted to Industrial Board.
<i>Hexham.</i> Iron Workshops—Boilermakers and Others.	23	..	23rd Nov. to 2nd Dec.	Objection to drawing tokens at meal hours.	Work resumed; four minutes' concession given to allow of complying with condition.
<i>Alexandria.</i> Glass Bottle Making. Boys.	50	..	25th Nov. to 26th Nov.	Increased rate of wage.	Claim remitted to a conference.
<i>Cockatoo Island.</i> Naval Dockyard—Engineers.	450	160	26th Nov. to 6th Dec.	Demarcation of work allotted to shipwrights.	Agreement between unions affected. Shipwrights to do the work.
<i>Port Waratah.</i> Iron and Steel Works—Engineers & Others	100	61	26th Nov.	Objection to rates of wage fixed by the Award of a Special Board.	Pending at the end of December.
<i>Darling Harbour.</i> Railway Traffic Branch—Porters.	319	..	1st Dec. to 4th Dec.	Reinstatement of porter already dismissed.	Porter reinstated.
<i>Garden Island.</i> Naval Stores Yard—Carpenters.	146	..	2nd Dec. to 3rd Dec.	Demarcation of work allotted to shipwrights.	Agreement reached between unions affected. Carpenters to do the work.
<i>Eveleigh.</i> Railway Workshops Engineers.	465	..	3rd Dec.	Increased rates of wages as awarded not being paid.	Work resumed. Award rates of wage to be paid.
<i>Nymagee.</i> Metalliferous Mining Miners.	280	..	4th Dec. to 7th Dec.	Non-distribution of pay on recognised pay day.	Wages distributed and work resumed.
<i>S. "Nerehana."</i> Waterside Working. Wharf Labourers.	80	..	6th Dec.	Objection to special officers appointed.	Work resumed on usual conditions.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Griffith.</i> Water Conservation Quartermen.	19	..	8th Dec. to 12th Dec.	Objection to a certain notice being displayed.	Notice removed.
<i>Eveleigh.</i> Railway Workshops. Coppersmiths.	22	..	8th Dec. to 19th Dec.	Objection to work with an undesirable.	Work resumed on promise of an inquiry into the man's conduct.
<i>Waterloo.</i> Glass Bottle Making. Blowers & Others.	250	..	9th Dec.	Rejection of bottles deemed bad.	Bottles accepted and new agreement made.
<i>Kearsley.</i> Abermain No. 2 Colliery—Miners.	240	..	10th Dec. to 14th Dec.	Shotfirers doing shiftmen's work.	Shotfirers withdrawn from filling coal.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton Colliery Miners.	146	63	13th Dec. to 18th Dec.	Objection to cavil for alleged deficient places.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Bellambi.</i> Sth. Bulli Colliery. Wheelers & Others.	402	..	13th Dec. to 14th Dec.	Reduction of working hours to 8 hours bank to bank.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Eveleigh.</i> Railway Workshops. Shop Boys.	148	..	14th Dec.	Increased rates of wage.	Award rates conceded
<i>Port of Sydney.</i> Loading Wheat. Waterside Workers.	150	..	14th Dec. to 22nd Dec.	Increase of 3d. per hour day work, and 4½d. per hour overtime.	Increased rates granted.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton Tunnel Colliery—Miners.	193	..	15th Nov. to 16th Dec.	In sympathy with miners in dispute at South Clifton Colliery.	Work resumed unconditionally.
<i>Illawarra.</i> Coke Manufacture. Burners & Others.	300	50	16th Dec. to 28th Dec.	Dissatisfaction with rates of wage fixed by Award.	Increase of 4d. per shift conceded after conference.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery. Miners.	400	..	18th Dec. to 20th Dec.	Miners objected to do wheeling.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
Pelaw Main Colliery. Miners and Others.	40	360	20th Dec.	Wheelers allowed their horses to return to stables during short meeting of the miners.	Work resumed next shift.
<i>Helensburgh.</i> Metropolitan—Miners & Others.	375	116	20th Dec.	Objection to a certain person appointed as roadman.	Pending at the end of December.
<i>Bellambi.</i> Bellambi Colliery. Wheelers.	73	..	20th Dec. to 21st Dec.	Increase in rate of wage from 9s. 6d. to 10s. per day.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery. Miners.	400	..	21st Dec.	Miners objected to do wheeling from a certain bord.	Work resumed next shift.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton Colliery. Miners.	146	59	21st Dec. to 22nd Dec.	Refusal to cavil for alleged deficient places.	Work resumed pending conference.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery. Miners and Others.	400	..	22nd Dec.	Miners objected to do wheeling from a certain bord.	Work resumed next shift.
<i>Weston.</i> Hebburn Colliery— Wheelers.	11	300	22nd Dec.	Unfounded rumour of the dismissal of a wheeler.	Work resumed.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery. Miners.	400	..	23rd Dec.	Miners refused to do wheeling from a certain bord.	Work resumed next shift.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton Colliery. Miners.	146	61	23rd Dec. to 24th Dec.	Refusal to cavil for alleged deficient places.	Work resumed unconditionally.
<i>Bulli.</i> Bulli Colliery.— Miners.	104	..	23rd Dec.	Refusal of miners to clean up dust before shots were fired.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Kurri Kurri.</i> Pelaw Main Colliery. Miners & Others.	400	..	24th Dec. to 31st Dec.	Declined to work afternoon shift.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Bellambi.</i> Sth. Bulli Colliery.— Miners.	391	..	24th Dec. to 30th Dec.	Claim for payment for full shift when working short time.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Scarborough.</i> Sth. Clifton Tunnel Colliery— Miners.	193	..	24th Dec. to 31st Dec.	In sympathy with miners in dispute at South Clifton Colliery.	Merged into the general strike which commenced on 3rd January, 1916.
<i>Cardiff.</i> Cardiff Colliery. Miners.	70	..	24th Dec. to 28th Dec.	Objection to a new dirt scale.	Amended dirt scale offered and accepted.
<i>North Sydney.</i> Electric Supply.— Painters.	12	..	30th Dec. to 31st Dec.	Claim that two men be allotted to paint each electric light pole.	Referred to Industrial Board.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Coopering— Coopers.	85	..	31st Dec.	Claim to be paid for public holidays.	Pending at the end of December.
<i>Bellambi.</i> Sth. Bulli Colliery. Wheelers & Others.	374	..	31st Dec.	No specific claim made.	Merged into general strike which commenced on 3rd Jan., 1916.
<i>Bellambi Colliery.</i> — Wheelers.	67	..	31st Dec.	Claim for payment for a full shift when working short time.	Merged into general strike which commenced on the 3rd January, 1916.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<b>Victoria.</b>					
<i>Yarraville.</i> Sugar Refining.— Sugar stackers.	18	..	9th Oct.	Increase of piece-work rate of wage.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Roofing Trades— Slaters & Tilers.	23	..	3rd Nov. to 4th Nov.	To enforce the payment by an unfinancial member of dues to the union.	Work resumed member to attend union meeting.
<i>Melbourne and Provincial Towns.</i> Iron Moulding.— Moulders & Others.	1,025	30	4th Nov. to 17th Nov.	Claim for an increase of 1s. per day in rate of wage.	Claim referred to Wages Board.
<i>Geelong.</i> Waterside Working. Wharf Labourers.	28	..	8th Nov.	Payment for time alleged to have been worked.	Work resumed on submission of the claim to arbitration.
<i>Maribyrnong.</i> Ammunition Works. Bag Stackers.	3	..	12th Nov. to 16th Nov.	Objection to the weight of bags to be handled.	Weight of bags reduced to accord with the Customs Act.
<i>Hawthorn-Burwood.</i> Tramway Construction— Labourers.	200	50	16th Nov. to 19th Nov.	Claim for an increase of 1s. per day in rate of wage.	Claim conceded.
<i>Williamstown.</i> Iron Moulding.— Moulders & Others.	16	..	18th Nov.	Alleged victimisation.	Pending at end of December.
<i>Wonthaggi.</i> State Coal Mine.— Machine Miners.	48	..	22nd Nov. to 16th Dec.	Alleged breaches of cavilling rules.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Melbourne &amp; Geelong.</i> Wool and Grain Storage.— Storemen & Others.	849	375	24th Nov. to 4th Dec.	Claim for shorter working hours and increase in rate of wage.	Increase of 3s. per week granted. Question of working hours referred to arbitration.
<i>Footscray.</i> Rubber Working.— Tyre-moulders.	75	..	24th Nov. to 29th Nov.	Change from piece-work to time rates of wage.	Claim conceded.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Postal Department. Conduit Workers.	98	..	25th Nov. to 18th Dec.	Increase in rate of daily wage from 9s. to 10s.	Work resumed. Claim remitted to Commonwealth Arbitration Court.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Wholesale Grocery. Teapackers and Others.	50	..	30th Nov.	Change from 45½ hours to 48 hours per week and pro-rata pay.	Claims conceded.
<i>Melbourne and Geelong.</i> Wool and Grain Storage.— Carriers.	24	..	1st Dec. to 4th Dec.	In sympathy with storemen on strike.	Resumed work on antecedent conditions.
<i>Port of Melbourne.</i> Waterside Working. Coal Lumpers.	14	4	3rd Dec.	Claim of non-unionists to be admitted to union.	Work resumed. Employers to endeavour to gain their admission.

Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<i>Burnley.</i> Ammunition Making— Engineers.	3	..	7th Dec. to 16th Dec.	Objection to non-unionists being employed as viewers.	One viewer dismissed, the other joined the union.
<i>North Melbourne.</i> Railway Yards— Coal Loaders.	20	..	10th Dec. to 11th Dec.	Increase in the rate of daily wage.	Men's places filled.
<i>Sal.</i> Water Reticulation. Trench Diggers.	8	..	11th Dec. to 12th Dec.	Increase from 8s. to 9s. per day.	Men's places filled.
<i>Spotswood.</i> Glass Bottle Making. Blowers and Others	204	158	15th Dec. to 16th Dec.	Objection to material being supplied.	Conference held, conditions altered and work resumed.
<i>Williamstown.</i> Wheat Loading— Lumpers.	80	40	21st Dec. to 23rd Dec.	Increase of 3d. per hour.	Demand conceded.
Wheat Loading— Lumpers.	12	28	28th Dec.	Increase from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per hour.	Demand conceded.
<b>Queensland.</b>					
<i>Brisbane.</i> Excavating— Labourers.	50	..	1st Oct. to 2nd Oct.	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Non-unionists ceased work.
Excavating— Labourers.	50	..	15th Oct. to 16th Oct.	Dispute between members of two unions.	Work resumed on antecedent conditions.
<i>Ayr.</i> Shire Employees— Labourers.	1	10	20th Oct.	Increased wage for cement channelling.	Pending at the end of December.
<i>Winton.</i> Warenda Station— Shearers & Others.	10	18	4th Nov. to 4th Dec.	Payment of fares to and from Warenda Station.	Men's places filled on payment being made.
<i>Townsville.</i> Meat Preserving— Slaughtermen and Others.	285	..	11th Nov. to 13th Nov.	Refusal of management to recognise the Union permits.	Permits recognised.
<i>Toowoomba.</i> Iron Founding— Boilermakers and Others.	229	..	22nd Nov. to 27th Nov.	Reinstatement of men dismissed.	Work resumed unconditionally.
<b>South Australia.</b>					
<i>Port Augusta.</i> East-West Railway Locomotive Drivers.	34	110	21st Oct. to 23rd Oct.	Reinstatement of a driver already distrated.	Work resumed. Claim not conceded.
<i>331 Miles West of Port Augusta.</i> East-West Railway. Plate-layers.	360	..	3rd Nov. to 18th Dec.	Demand for payment for time lost.	Payment made.
<i>Adelaide.</i> Aerated Water Trade— All Employees.	120	..	12th Nov. to 13th Nov.	Reduction of working hours.	Demand conceded temporarily.
<i>Port Adelaide.</i> Meat Export— Slaughtermen.	8	..	4th Dec. to 21st Dec.	Increase of 2s. 6d. per 100 for slaughtering lambs.	Work resumed. Rate to be awarded by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court to be retrospective.



Particulars of Industrial Disputes recorded during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	No. of Workpeople Involved.		Dates of Commencement and Termination	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.			
<b>Western Australia.</b>					
<i>Kellerberrin.</i> Agricultural— Chaff Cutters.	50	50	30th Oct. to 5th Nov.	Demand for increased wages.	Increase, 5s. per week granted.
<b>Tasmania.</b>					
<i>Hobart.</i> <i>S.S. "Laronah."</i> Waterside Workers.	22	†	20th Sept to 6th Oct.	Against employment of member of crew as winchman.	Demand conceded.
<b>Northern Territory.</b>					
<i>Darwin.</i> Railway Construction— Ballast Gang.	20	..	23rd Aug. to 31st Aug.	Demand to be paid ballast pit rate of wage.	Demand not conceded. Work relinquished.
<i>Darwin.</i> State Hotels— Cooks and Others.	41	4	23rd Oct.	Against reduction of wages.	Pending at the end of December.
Building— Engineers.	23	12	29th Nov.	Increase of wage of 4d. per hour.	Increase 1d. per hour granted pending reference to Commonwealth Arbitration Court.
Railway Construction— Labourers.*	12	..	16th Aug.	Increased wages for loading sleepers.	Demand partially conceded.

\* Particulars not available for insertion in third quarter Industrial Disputes.

† See Labour Bulletin No. 11, page 245.

## SECTION VII.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.

1. **General.**—In the first issue of this Bulletin it was pointed out that for the purposes of statistical investigations made by this Bureau in regard to variations in wages, a change in rate of wages is defined as a change in the weekly rate of remuneration of a certain class of employees apart from any change in the nature of the work performed, or apart from any revision of rates due to increased length of service or experience.\*

Information was also given in Labour Report No. 5 (see pages 63-4) as to the sources of information and methods of collection and computation. In addition to the organisations and persons specified therein as furnishing returns to this Bureau, various Government Departments have also sent in returns concerning changes in rates of wage affecting their employees. Particulars concerning those changes in rates of wages also of those effected after the occurrence of strikes or lock-outs, and by voluntary agreements between employers and employees are included.

As regards the number of persons affected, the particulars given in the tables refer to the number of persons ordinarily engaged in the various industries. The results as to the amount of increase in wages are computed for a full week's work for all persons ordinarily engaged in the several industries and occupations affected, and in case of changes in existing minimum rates under awards or determinations of industrial tribunals, it has ordinarily been assumed (in the absence of any definite information to the contrary) that the whole of the employees in each occupation received the minimum rates of wage before and after the change.

It should be clearly understood that *the figures given in each of the following tables* shewing the amount of the increase per week relate to the *net* increase, i.e., after allowance has been made for those changes which resulted in a decrease. In absence of information to the contrary it is assumed that the full number of persons ordinarily engaged in the particular trade or occupation affected by the change was employed during that week. It is obvious, however, that the aggregate effect per annum cannot be obtained without making due allowance for unemployment in those occupations in which employment is seasonal or intermittent. It is also obvious that since unemployment and activity in all branches of industry may vary from year to year, and in many branches from season to season also, no accurate estimate of the actual effect of the changes in the total amount of wages received or paid *per annum* can be made, until the determining factors have been investigated. These factors are (a) the amount of unemployment and (b) the period of employment in seasonal industries. It is hoped that provision will be made for the necessary investigations in regard to these two matters to be commenced at an early date.

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\* It is obvious that under this definition certain classes of changes are excluded, such, for example, as (a) Changes in rates of pay due to promotions, progressive increments, or, on the other hand, to reduction in pay or grade to inefficient workers, and (b) Changes in average earnings in an occupation due to a change in the proportions which higher paid classes of workers bear to lower paid classes.

## 2. Comparative Summary of Changes in 1913, 1914, and 1915.—

The following table gives particulars for each State and for all States, in quarterly periods of the years 1913, 1914, and 1915, respectively, of—

- The number of changes in rates of wages;†
- The aggregate net amount§ of increase to the weekly wage distribution;
- The estimated number of workpeople to whom the changes applied; and
- The average amount of weekly increase per head to such workpeople.

### Changes in Rates of Wage in each State, and for the Commonwealth, during Quarterly Periods, 1913, 1914 and 1915.

State.	No. of Changes.				No. of Persons Affected.				Total Amount of Net Increase per Week.				Average Increase per Head per Week.			
	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.
1913																
N.S.W. ..	25	35	30	59	16,480	25,735	31,214	16,189	£ 4,623	£ 5,680	£ 6,592	£ 4,894	s. d. 5 7	s. d. 4 5	s. d. 4 3	s. d. 6 1
Vic. ..	12	19	15	35	10,352	6,828	9,844	22,230	2,411	1,354	1,807	4,308	4 8	4 0	3 8	3 11
Q'land ..	7	10	5	19	6,120	2,792	2,497	5,236	1,266	565	535	1,336	4 2	4 1	4 3	5 1
S. Aust. ..	3	5	4	14	460	1,190	1,204	1,720	79	535	205	460	3 5	9 0	3 5	5 4
W.A. ..	2	9	2	7	92	2,262	110	572	15	226	16	171	3 3	2 0	2 11	6 0
Tas. ..	..	3	2	7	..	2,410	200	395	..	391	87	157	..	3 3	8 8	7 11
<b>C'wealth ..</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>33,504</b>	<b>41,217</b>	<b>45,069</b>	<b>46,342</b>	<b>8,394</b>	<b>8,751</b>	<b>9,242</b>	<b>11,326</b>	<b>5 0</b>	<b>4 3</b>	<b>4 1</b>	<b>4 11</b>
1914.																
N.S.W. ..	37	68	38	38	14,091	25,936	9,760	4,054	2,813	6,785	1,978	1,244	4 0	5 3	4 1	6 2
Vic. ..	17	21	16	14	5,264	11,658	9,304	3,590	1,091	3,040	1,748	800	4 2	5 3	3 9	4 5
Q'land ..	8	10	10	14	2,033	4,693	4,325	5,857	497	1,662	1,085	1,255	4 11	7 1	5 0	4 3
S.A. ..	3	5	5	5	370	2,723	1,991	540	57	772	922	190	3 1	5 8	9 3	7 0
W.A. ..	11	12	8	8	2,838	1,736	2,246	479	865	636	627	103	6 1	7 4	5 7	4 4
Tas. ..	5	5	4	5	357	2,627	783	545	72	432	181	119	4 0	3 3	4 11	4 4
<b>C'wealth</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>*82</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>24,953</b>	<b>49,373</b>	<b>28,749</b>	<b>15,065</b>	<b>5,395</b>	<b>13,327</b>	<b>6,684*</b>	<b>3,711</b>	<b>4 4</b>	<b>5 5</b>	<b>4 8</b>	<b>4 11</b>
1915.																
N.S.W. ..	7	37	45	76	1,375	12,433	14,181	76,570	250	3,509	3,671	21,275	3 7	5 8	5 2	5 7
Vic. ..	3	14	23	47	158	2,785	12,380	23,766	85	491	2,844	4,668	10 9	3 6	4 7	3 11
Q'land ..	6	7	19	28	2,070	1,540	8,830	10,424	511	241	2,202	3,444	4 11	3 2	5 0	6 7
S.A. ..	..	3	3	24	..	706	411	7,423	..	109	78	2,838	..	3 1	3 10	7 8
W.A. ..	1	8	2	14	14	1,235	267	1,145	7	219	53	283	10 0	3 7	4 0	4 11
Tas. ..	..	4	4	16	..	138	1,098	1,727	..	74	267	437	..	10 9	4 10	5 1
North. Terr. ..	..	1	..	2	..	150	..	35	..	78	..	9	..	10 5	..	5 2
<b>C'wealth ..</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>209*</b>	<b>3,617</b>	<b>18,987†</b>	<b>37,167</b>	<b>131,090</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>4,721</b>	<b>9,115</b>	<b>35,892</b>	<b>4 9</b>	<b>5 0</b>	<b>4 11</b>	<b>5 6</b>

\* Including the effect of one or more changes brought about, either by an award of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court or by an industrial agreement made pursuant to Section 24 of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, particulars of which in respect to the number of workpeople affected and the total amount of increased weekly wages in each State are not ascertainable.

† Including number of workers affected by a decrease in rates of wage.

‡ It should be observed that each change recorded represents a change in the rate of wage in a specific industry, which affects workers in one or more occupations therein. In many instances workers in a number of occupations are affected by a single change.

§ See explanation in fourth paragraph of the preceding sub-section.

|| See footnote to next table with respect to charges not included herein.

The foregoing table sets out particulars relating to the whole of the changes effected in rates of wage, which have been recorded since the tabulation of such information was first compiled by this Bureau, with the exception of four changes in the last quarter of 1915, particulars of which have not yet been received.

The annual figures for the year 1913, with details for each State as to industrial classification and the methods by which such changes were effected, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 63-70. Those relating to the years 1914 and 1915, combined, are now in course of tabulation, and will be published in a Labour Report to be issued at an early date.

**3. Number and Magnitude of Changes in each State, 4th Quarter, 1915.**—The following table gives particulars of changes in rates of wages in each State during the fourth quarter of 1915, together with comparative information for the Commonwealth for the preceding quarter of the current year, and the corresponding quarter of 1914. :—

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected, Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per Week, and Net Average Increase per Head per Week in each State and Territory, 4th Quarter, 1915.**

PARTICULARS.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	COMMONWEALTH.		
								4th Q'ter, 1915.	3rd Q'ter, 1915.	4th Q'ter, 1914.
No. of Changes ..	§76	47	28	‡24	14	16	2	* ‡209	95	84
No. of Persons Affected	76,570	23,766	10,424	7,423	1,145	1,727	35	131,090	37,167	15,065
Total Net Amount of Increase per week £	21,275	4,668	3,444	2,838	283	437	9	35,892	9,115	3,711
Net Average Increase per Head per week ..	5s. 7d.	3s. 11d.	6s. 7d.	7s. 8d.	4s. 11d.	5s. 1d.	5s. 2d.	5s. 6d.	4s. 11d.	4s. 11d.

\* Including number of workers affected by decreases in rates of wage.

† Including two changes brought about respectively by a variation of an award of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, and by an industrial agreement made pursuant to Section 24 of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, particulars of which in respect to the number of workpeople affected and the total net amount of increased weekly wages in each State are not ascertainable.

§ A further three changes were recorded for this State, but complete particulars relating thereto have not yet been received.

‡ A further change, of which the complete particulars have not yet been ascertained, was recorded for this State.

From the above table it will be observed that the number of changes in rates of wages throughout the Commonwealth, particulars of which have been recorded during the quarter under review, totalled 209.† These changes resulted in an aggregate net addition of £35,892 to the weekly wage distribution to the 131,090 workpeople affected thereby, and an average increase in weekly wage of 5s. 6d. per head. The number of changes recorded for each State was as follows:—New South Wales, 76; Victoria, 47; Queensland, 28; South Australia, 24; Western Australia, 14; and Tasmania, 16. In addition, two changes were recorded for the Northern Territory; and two affecting occupations in the Inter-State Merchant Marine Service, the effects of which are common to all States.

In each State of the Commonwealth the number of changes in rates of wages recorded during the quarter under review, exceeded by varying large margins, those previously recorded in any one quarter by this Bureau. The two main factors which may be said to have contributed to these results are (a) the greater number of applications made by employees

† Of that number 33 changes took effect at various dates prior to the 1st October, 1915. Particulars of these changes were not available in time for inclusion in the results of changes recorded for previous quarters.

to industrial tribunals for an increase in the minimum rates of wage, in consequence of the rapid rise in the cost of living, and (b) the relaxation of, or the entire removal of, those restrictions which were imposed in each State—owing to the drought of 1914 and the outbreak of war—on operations by tribunals constituted under the Wages Boards and Arbitration Acts. It is probable that but for the restrictions mentioned, the number of changes for the whole of the year 1915 would not have been as numerous as they were, certainly they would not have reached the exceptional figures recorded for the fourth quarter of that year. Important subordinate factors which influenced the results are (a) the increasing number of industries and activities which are being brought under the application of the different systems for regulating wages and conditions of employment, which are in force throughout the Commonwealth; and (b) the extension of the operations of these systems to the provincial and country districts of some of the States, thus multiplying the areas of incidence, and consequently the number of awards and determinations made. The magnitude of the number of changes in rates of wage effected during the fourth quarter of 1915, when taken alone, would appear to note a very considerable increased movement for the whole year. This feature, however, is confined to some, only, of the States. In others the number of changes recorded for the whole year were less than in the preceding year. The following table will indicate the actual movements as regards changes in rates of wage in each State and all States for the years 1913, 1914, and 1915 respectively.

**Changes in Rates of Wages in each State and Territory, and the Commonwealth,  
1913, 1914 and 1915.**

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	C'wealth.
1913	149	81	41	26	20	12	..	329
1914	185	69	50	18	42	19	..	384*
1915	165	87	60	32	25	24	3	398*†

\* Including one or more changes which are common to all States, but for which the numbers of workers affected in each State, are not ascertainable. † Exclusive of four changes, particulars relating to which are not complete.

It will thus be observed that the number of changes in rates of wages, for the whole of the States and Territories, numbered 402, including four for which particulars have not been received, or 18 only in excess of those recorded for the year 1914. It will be seen, however, that increased numbers are shewn for all States excepting New South Wales and Western Australia.

Four instances only, of a decrease in a rate of wage are recorded for the quarter under review, of which one occurred in each of the following States, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia. In New South Wales the decrease was owing to the daily wage paid to certain firemen being reduced to the rate prescribed by award. In Victoria increases granted to certain municipal employees in August last were reduced to conform with a general agreement reached between the employees' union and the majority of the Councils represented on the Municipal Councils' Association. In South Aus-

tralia, an award made for the brickmaking industry during the 3rd quarter of 1915, whereby an increase was granted to workers employed making bricks exceeding  $2\frac{3}{4}$  in. in thickness, was quashed on appeal, and the old rates reverted to. In Western Australia a decrease was recorded owing to a general reclassification of employees engaged in the transport service of the East-West Trans-Australian Railway.

188 changes in rates of wage were effected without involving any cessation of work, and 21 changes in rates of wage resulted from settlements arrived at in disputes involving a stoppage of work. Of those changes brought about by stoppages of work 12 were recorded in New South Wales, 6 in Victoria, 1 in Western Australia, and 2 in the Northern Territory.

The net average increase per head for all States and Territories was 5s. 6d. per week, compared with 4s. 11d. for the preceding quarter of 1915, and the corresponding quarter of 1914.

Included in the 209 changes in rates of wages recorded for the Commonwealth are 23 which wholly or partly applied to female occupations. The numbers of persons affected in each class of workers, male and female respectively, the total net amount of increased wages per week and per head are set out in the following table:—

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected, Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per Week, and Net Average Increase per Head per Week in each State and Territory, 4th Quarter, 1915.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	C'wlth.
MALE OCCUPATIONS.								
No. of Persons Affected ..	65,935	22,459	10,416	7,028	1,078	1,719	35	118,670
Total Net Amount of Increase per week .. .. £	18,842	4,450	3,443	2,731	267	426	9	33,116
Net Average Increase per head per week .. ..	5s. 9d.	4s. 0d.	6s. 7d.	7s. 9d.	4s. 11d.	5s. 1d.	5s. 2d.	5s. 7d.
FEMALE OCCUPATIONS.								
No. of Persons Affected ..	10,635	1,307	8	395	67	8	..	12,420
Total Net Amount of Increase per week .. .. £	2,433	218	1	107	16	1	..	2,776
Net Average Increase per head per week .. ..	4s. 7d.	3s. 4d.	2s. 6d.	5s. 5d.	4s. 9d.	2s. 6d.	..	4s. 6d.

The number of changes which affected female occupations, in the order of the States as set out above, were 9, 6, 1, 4, 2, and 1 respectively.

**4. Number and Magnitude of Changes in Rates of Wages, classified according to Industrial Groups.—October to December, 1915.**—The following table gives particulars of changes recorded during the fourth quarter of the year 1915, classified in groups according to the following industrial classification:—

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected, and Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per week, according to Industrial Groups, 4th Quarter, 1915.**

Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected.	Net a'm't of Increase per week.	Industrial Group.	No. of Changes.	No. of Persons Affected.	Net a'm't of Increase per week.
I. Wood, Furniture, Timber, etc. . .	11	2,529	£ 629	IX. Rail and Tramway Transport . . . *	13	19,898	£ 3,283
II. Engineering, Metal Working, etc. . . †	26	19,764	5,273	X. Other Land Transport . . .	6	2,150	453
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	27	8,846	2,260	XI. Shipping, etc. . .	13	12,747	3,516
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	3	770	242	XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc. . .	3	2,150	852
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	2	898	260	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	10	4,971	1,083
VI. Other Manufacturing . . .	36	8,880	1,806	XIV. Miscellaneous . .	38	31,382	12,036
VII. Building . . . *	5	3,129	398				
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc.	16	12,976	3,801				
				TOTAL { 4th Quarter, 1915	209	131,090	35,892
				3rd Quarter, 1915	96	37,167	9,115
				4th Quarter, 1914	84	15,065	3,711

\* Subject to adjustment by the inclusion of particulars relating to one change.

† Subject to adjustment by the inclusion of particulars relating to two other changes.

It will be observed from the above table that the number of changes in rates of wage were greatest in industries and occupations classified under Industrial Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), followed in the order named by Groups VI. (Other Manufacturing, etc.), III. (Food, Drink, etc.), II. (Engineering, Metal Working, etc.), VIII. (Mining, Quarrying, etc.), IX. (Railway and Tramway Transport), XI. (Shipping and Water-side Occupations), I. (Woodworking, Furniture, etc.), XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), X. (Other Land Transport), VII. (Building Trades), IV. and XII. (Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc., and Agricultural, Pastoral, etc., respectively) equal, and V. (Books, Printing, etc.).

Of the total number of changes in rates of wage recorded during the quarter under review, 23 wholly or partly applied to female occupations. These changes affected 12,420 workers, and involved an increase in weekly wages of £2766. In the following table particulars relating to these changes are set out in industrial classification:—

**Changes in Rates of Wages.—Female Occupations.—Number of Changes and Persons Affected, and Aggregate Net Amount of Increase per week, according to Industrial Groups, 4th Quarter, 1915.**

Particulars.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing Boots, etc.	VI. All other Manufacturing.	XIII. Domestic Hotels, etc.	XIV. Miscellaneous.	All Industrial Groups.
Number of Changes . .	4	1	8	9	1	23
Number of Persons Affected . .	508	150	1,175	3,887	6,700	12,420
Net Amt of Increase per week £	46	52	252	866	1,560	2,776

The principal changes, in respect to the number of female workers affected, recorded during the quarter under review, were shop assistants (N.S.W.) 6700, laundry workers (N.S.W.) 3238. Other changes of importance affected barmaids in New South Wales, jam workers, rope and cordage workers, machinists and others employed at tent and tarpaulin making, and fruit harvesters in Victoria; and bootmaking employees, fruit harvesters and laundry workers in South Australia.

5. **Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages Recorded during 4th Quarter, 1915.**—In the subjoined tabular statement, particulars are summarised of each change in rates of wages during the fourth quarter of the year 1915, shewing (a) the locality, industry and occupation affected; (b) the date on which the change came into operation; (c) the approximate number of persons affected; (d) the method by which each change was brought about; and (e) brief particulars of the resulting increase on the existing rates of wages.

**Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the Fourth Quarter, 1915.**

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<b>New South Wales.</b> <i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.*</i>					
Shop Assistants, other than in Grocery, Tobacco- nists, etc.	6th June	14,300	6,700	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaged to males, 9s. 6d., and to females, 4s. 8d. per week.
<i>Northern Rivers,*</i> Sugar Manufacture Fugalmen and others.	30th June	260	..	Do.	Increase averaging 1s. 6d. per week.
<i>Everleigh.*</i> Railway Workshops Boys and Youths.	14th July	154	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase averaged 9s. per week.
<i>Whole State excluding County of Yanco- winna.*</i> Ironworking— Assistants.	14th July	3,890	..	Award of Industrial Court.	Increase to labourers, 1s. 6d.; all others, 3s. per week.
<i>Whole State.*</i> Postal Department, Sorters.	6th Aug.	428	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaged £13 per annum.
<i>Irondale and Boidon.*</i> Coal Mining— Miners and others.	14th Aug.	80	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase in yardage rates to miners and daily rates to sur- face hands averag- ing 5s. 9d. per week
<i>Glebe Island.*</i> State Abbatoirs— Drivers with own Turnout.	14th Aug.	44	..	Do.	Increase from 14s. to 15s. per day.
<i>Coastal.*</i> State Trawling— Masters and En- gineers.	1st Sept	12	..	Industrial Agree- ment under State Act.	Increase averaged £2 per month.
<i>East Greta.*</i> Railways— Traffic Officers.	11th Sept.	14	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase to minimum of 52s. 6d. per week.
Railways— Wages Staff.	11th Sept.	33	..	Do.	Increase to minimum of 52s. 6d. per week
<i>Broken Hill.*</i> Metalliferous Mining Underground and Surface Hands.	12th Sept.	3,300	..	Voluntary action of employers.	Increase 1s. per shift.
<i>County Cumberland.*</i> Laundering— All Occupations.	29th Sept.	141	3,238	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaged to adult males 8s., and to females 5s. per week.

\* Particulars not available in time for inclusion in results of changes during previous quarters.



Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr., 1915—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Tanning & Currying All Occupations.	1st Oct.	500	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase, 3s. per week,
<i>Bathurst and Lithgow.</i> Brickmaking— Burners & Others.	13th Oct.	91	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour.
<i>Whole State.</i> Shipwrighting— Shipwrights.	13th Oct.	640	..	Do.	Increase of $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Tillemaking(Roofing) Burners & Others.	13th Oct.	30	..	Do.	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area</i> Farrying— Floormen & Others	13th Oct.	300	..	Do.	Increase to firemen and floormen, 6s. ; and apprentices, 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Port Waratah.</i> Iron and Steel Manufacture— Fitters, Turners, etc.	13th Oct.	613	..	Do.	Increase : Employees on 6-day shifts, average 4s. 3d., and on continuous 7- day shifts, average 3s. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna, etc.</i> Engineering— Fitters, Turners and Others.	13th Oct.	8,000	..	Do.	Increase; : Forgemen and furnacemen, 2d. per hour, turners, pattern; makers and others- $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour.
<i>Port Jackson.</i> Steam Ferrying— Masters, Engineers and Others.	14th Oct.	22	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase averaging about 5s. per week.
<i>Port of Sydney.</i> Waterside Working. Coal Lumpers.	22nd Oct.	1,600	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act after stoppage of work.	Increase, 1d. per hour from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department. Letter Carriers.	25th Oct.	4	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging £6 per annum.
<i>County Cumberland, Newcastle and Maitland.</i> Bookbinding, etc.— Female Sewers.	27th Oct.	..	48	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase : Sewers up to 4 quires, 2s. 6d., over 4 quires, 10s, per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Gas Meter Making— Makers and Testers.	27th Oct.	80	..	Do.	Increase : Makers, 60s. to 66s. per week; testers, 51s. to 54s. and 60s. per week.
<i>Broken Hill.</i> Municipal Authority Various.	1st Nov.	94	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase averaging 5s. 6d. per week.
<i>West Wallsend.</i> Seaham No. 2 Colliery— Wheeler	2nd Nov.	18	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work	Increase in tonnage rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr., 1915—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Broken Hill.</i> Gas Supply— Gas Fitters.	4th Nov.	19	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 12s. to 13s. per day.
<i>Waterloo.</i> Glass Bottle Works, Firemen.	5th Nov.	3	..	Voluntary action of employers.	Decrease from 10s. to to 9s. per shift.
<i>South Coast.</i> Sleeper Cutting— Cutters.	8th Nov.	100	..	Negotiations and in- tervention of third party after stop- page of work.	Increase of 2d. per sleeper.
<i>County of Cumberland.</i> Wool, Skin and Grain Storage— Storemen and Packers.	9th Nov.	1,050	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase : 5s. per week ; hide classers 8s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Pastry Cooking— All Occupations.	10th Nov	472	88	Do.	Increase averaging to male employees, 4s. 9d. ; and to female employees, 3s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan and Newcastle.</i> Brewing— All Occupations.	15th Nov	940	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act after stoppage of work.	Increase to adult em- ployees, 6s. ; and to boys and youths, average 4s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Licensed Victuallers, Barmen and Bar- maids.	15th Nov	750	400	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase on dry pay rates to barmen and others, 3s. ; and barmaids, 1s. per week.
<i>Dubbo.</i> Sleeper Cutting— Cutters.	15th Nov	235	..	Direct negotiations and intervention of third party after stoppage of work.	Increase of 4d. and 5d per sleeper.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Iron Pipe Moulding, All Occupations except Moulders, Coremakers and Casters.	17th Nov	400	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase : Chargers, tappers, dressers and casing empti- ers, 9s. ; all others, 6s. per week.
<i>Port Kembla.</i> Electrolytic Smelting— All Occupations.	17th Nov	150	..	Do.	Increase : Jetty lab- ourers, 3s. per week, all others, 2d. to 3d. per day.
<i>Illawarra District—</i> Coke Manufacture Coke Workers.	17th Nov	500	..	Do.	Increase, averaging 4s. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Fellmongering— Skin-pullers.	17th Nov	60	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase to piece rates of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per dozen.
<i>Abernethy.</i> Coal Mining— Shaft-sinkers	24th Nov.	77	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 11s. 3d. to 12s. per day.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr., 1915—*cont*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Cycle and Motor Building— All Occupations.	24th Nov	800	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaging 5s. 9d. per week.
<i>County Cumberland.</i> Retail Milk Vending Carters.	24th Nov	570	..	Do.	Increase 3s. per week
<i>Kitchener.</i> Coal Mining— Shaft-sinkers	24th Nov.	66	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 11s. 3d. 12s. per day.
<i>Port Jackson.</i> Private Lighters and Launches— Masters and En- gineers.	24th Nov.	100	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaging 7s. per week.
<i>Waterloo</i> Glass Bottle Making, Boy Assistants.	29th Nov.	200	..	Direct negotiations after stoppage of work.	Increase from 35s. to 37s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Bottle Yard Em- ployees— Washers & Others.	1st Dec.	50	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase from 50s. to 54s. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Wholesale Grocery. Storemen and Packers.	1st Dec.	280	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase, 4s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department. Postmasters.	1st Dec.	413	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging £22 per annum.
<i>Port Jackson.</i> Private Lighters & Launches— Firemen and Deck- hands.	1st Dec.	28	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase : Firemen from 51s. to 60s. per week ; deck- hands averaging 6s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Railways— Wages Staff.	1st Dec.	10,154	..	Do.	Increase to minimum wage of 52s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Condiment Milling. All Occupations.	1st Dec.	500	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaging 7s. per week to adults, and 3s. to juvenile workers.
Flour Milling— All Occupations.	1st Dec.	850	..	Do.	Increase : Wheat stackers, 2d. per hour ; youths, 3s. 6d. per week ; and adults, 7s. per week
<i>Sydney.</i> Postal Department, Female Cleaners.	1st Dec.	..	21	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 25s. to 27s. 6d. per week.
<i>Port Jackson.</i> Port Jackson and Manly S.S. Co. Ltd. Employees other than Masters and and Engineers on Passenger Services.	2nd Dec.	112	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase averaging 2s. per week to turn- stile hands, and 7s. per week to fire- men, deck hands and others.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr., 1915—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Port Jackson.</i> Port Jackson and Manly S.S. Co. Ltd. Employees other than Masters and Engineer on Cargo Services.	2nd Dec.	13	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase to firemen, 9s., and cargo hands, 4s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Oil Stores— Storemen & Pack- ers.	3rd Dec.	135	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 51s. 6d. to 57s. 6d. per week
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Engine Driving, Sundry Industries— Drivers, Firemen, Cleaners and Others	8th Dec.	1,410	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaging to drivers 10s., fire- men 10s., and others, 11s. per week.
<i>County Cumberland.</i> Bulk Milk Vending, Pasteurisers, Re- ceivers and Others.	8th Dec.	570	..	Do	Increase averaging 3s per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Wire Mattress Mak- ing— Weavers, Stretchers and Others.	8th Dec.	80	..	Do.	Increase from 52s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.
<i>Alexandria.</i> R. L. Scrutton & & Co. Ltd. Structural Iron- workers.	8th Dec.	35	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees, after a stoppage of work.	Increase averaging 4s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Coopering— Coopers.	9th Dec.	260	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase averaging 10s. per week.
<i>Southern Coal District.</i> Collieries. Miners & Others.	13th Dec.	3,460	..	Industrial agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act, after a stop- page of work and compulsory con- ference.	Increase to adult workers averaged 3s. 8d.; and to boys 1s. per week.
<i>Port Jackson.</i> Motor Boats, Drivers and Coxswains.	15th Dec.	150	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase to minimum of 60s. per week.
<i>County Cumberland.</i> Bread Delivery— Carters.	15th Dec.	900	..	Do.	Increase from 52s. 6d. to 60s. per week.
<i>Abbotsford.</i> Wire Netting Manu- facture— Galvanisers and Others.	17th Dec.	62	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase in piece work rates to galvanisers and drossers; others increase 3s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Glass Bottle Making. Furnacemen and Others.	18th Dec.	185	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase: Furnace- men, 1s. per shift; other employees, 9s. per week.

## Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr., 1915—cont.

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>County Cumberland, Newcastle and Maitland.</i> Wines and Spirits, Bottling— All Occupations.	22nd Dec.	250	50	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase: Adult males 6s.; adult females, 3s.; boys and improvers (aver- age), 4s.; and fe- males under 21 years of age (aver- age), 3s. per week.
<i>County Cumberland.</i> Aerated Waters Manufacture— All Occupations.	22nd Dec.	350	50	Do.	Increase: Adult males, 8s.; adult females, 5s.; juvenile males (average) 6s., and juvenile females, 3s. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Tanning & Currying. All Occupations.	22nd Dec.	250	..	Do.	Increase to employees not under Award of Commonwealth Arbitration Court, 3s. per week.
<i>Port of Sydney—</i> Waterside Workers, Wheat Lumpers.	22nd Dec.	150	..	Direct negotiations with assistance of third party, after a stoppage of work.	Increase from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per hour.
<i>Illawarra District.</i> Coke Manufacture. Burners.	29th Dec.	300	..	Direct negotiations with assistance of third party after stoppage of work.	Increase, 2s. per week
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Saddle and Harness Making— Saddlers, Machin- ists and Others not engaged on De- fence Equipment.	30th Dec.	400	40	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase: Males, 57s- to 60s.; and fe. males from 27s. to 28s. per week.
<i>Northern Coal District.</i> Collieries. Engineers and Mechanics.	30th Dec.	277	..	Do.	Increase: Machinists and planers, 8s.; labourers on con- crete, 12s.; and others, 6s. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Bespoke Boot Re- pairing— Journeyman.	30th Dec.	200	..	Do.	Increase from 56s. to 63s. per week.
<i>County Cumberland, Newcastle, and Maitland.</i> Jobbing Printing Offices— Letterpress Machin- ists.	30th Dec.	850	..	Do.	Increase: Double crown work, 7s. 6d.; above double crown work, 5s.; platen machinists and ap- prentices (average) 4s. 9d. per week.
<i>Whole State, excluding County of Yanco- winna.</i> Iron Pipe Moulding, Moulders & Others.	30th Dec.	120	..	Do.	Increase, 6s. per week
Quarrying— All Occupations other than Quarry- men, Gutterers, and Scablers.	30th Dec.	2,000	..	Do.	Increase, 6s. per week

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr., 1915—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<b>Victoria.</b>					
<i>Whole State.*</i> State Railways.— Traffic employees	1st July.	6,459	..	Voluntary action of the Minister for Railways.	Minimum wage for adult porters in- creased from 8s. to 9s. per day; other employees, includ- ing females earning less than 9s. per day increased 6d.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Board of Works.* Clerks, Inspectors and Others.	1st July	260	..	Voluntary action of Board.	Increase: Adult males with dependants to minimum of 54s.; other outside hands 3s.; clerks and others receiving less than £200 per ann., average, 5s. per week.
Artificial Manure Making—* All Occupations.	5th Aug.	350	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase, 2s. per week
<i>Whole State.*</i> Postal Department. Sorters.	6th Aug.	360	..	Do.	Increase, £13 per ann.
<i>Various.*</i> Engine Driving— Drivers & Firemen.	various	100	..	Industrial Agree- ments under Com- monwealth Act.	Increase, 6s. per week
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Building Trades. Builders' Labourers	1st Oct.	2,800	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase of 1d. per hour; 1s. 3½d. to to 1s. 4d.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Defence Equipment, Clothing Examin- ers.	1st Oct.	70	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 60s to 66s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Tanning & Currying. All Occupations.	1st Oct.	830	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase 3s. per week.
Rope and Cordage All Occupations.	4th Oct.	277	275	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase averaging to males 3s., and females 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Motor Land Trans- port— Drivers & Cleaners.	8th Oct.	575	..	Do.	Increase from 50s. to 52s. 6d. per week.
Electric Installation. Labourers and Assistant Wiremen.	15th Oct.	30	..	Do.	Increase to minimum wage of 56s. per week.
Tent and Tarpaulin Making— All Occupations.	25th Oct.	280	264	Do.	Increase: Male hand sewers, 3s. 6d.; other adult males, 2s.; and females, 1s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department Letter Carriers by Motor.	25th Oct.	2	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase, £12 per ann.
<i>Whole State, excluding Metropolitan Area.</i> Wood Working— Sawyers & Others.	1st Nov	500	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase averaging 5s. per week.

\* Particulars not available in time for inclusion in results of changes during previous quarter.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr. 1915—*cont*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females		
<i>Various Municipalities.</i> Municipal Authority Labourers & others	1st Nov.	324	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase to 185 work- ers 8d. per day, and decrease to 139 workers 4d. per day
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Brewing— All Occupations.	7th Nov.	616	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase, 6s. per week
Roofing Trades— Slaters and Tilers.	8th Nov.	77	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase from 1s. 7½d. to 1s. 9d. per hour.
Potteries.— Burners and Others	8th Nov.	636	..	Do.	Increase averaging 2s 10d. per week.
Cork Cutting— All Occupations.	11th Nov.	100	56	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees, with the assistance of a third party.	Increase to male em- ployees averaged 10s., and to female employees, 5s. per week.
<i>Footscray.</i> Glucose Manufacture Neutralizers and Others.	11th Nov	29	..	Do.	Increase to steepers and pressers, 3s., and to neutralizers and others, 6s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Fuel Supply— Coal Yard Workers and Carters.	13th Nov	286	..	Determination of Wages Board from 8th January, 1916, voluntarily paid by employers from 13th Nov., 1915.	Increase to carters, 2s. 6d.; and to other workers, 6s per week.
<i>Port of Melbourne.</i> Refitting Troopships Painters & Dockers	16th Nov	100	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees, with assist- ance of third party.	Increase, 6s. per week
<i>Hawthorn-Burwood.</i> Tramway Laying— Labourers and Carters.	19th Nov.	250	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployees and em- ployees after a stoppage of work.	Increase, 1s. per day.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Tanning and Curry- ing— All Occupations.	22nd Nov.	30	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase, 3s. per week to employees not included under Commonwealth Award, 1st Oct., 1915.
Gas Supply— Labourers and Others.	26th Nov	750	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase: Bendigo, 9d.; Melbourne, 10d. and 1s. 1d.; and Suburban, 4d. per shift.
<i>Footscray.</i> Barnett Glass Co. Rubber Tyre Moulders.	29th Nov.	20	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees, after a stoppage of work.	Increase from 57s. 9d. to 65s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department. Postmasters.	1st Dec.	215	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaged £22 per annum.



Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages recorded during the 4th Qtr., 1915—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Whole State.</i> Firebrick Manufacture— Burners & Others.	1st Dec.	68	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase averaged 8s. per week.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Monier Pipe Construction— Pipemakers and Labourers.	1st Dec.	80	..	Direct negotiations between representatives of employers and employees.	Increase : Pipe- makers, 6s.; and labourers, 3s. and 6s. per week.
Defence Equipment. Blacksmiths.	1st Dec.	30	..	Direct negotiations between representatives of employers and employees assisted by a third party.	Increase from 10s. & 11s. per day to 70s. per week.
<i>Mildura.</i> Fruit Harvesting. Pickers & Others.	1st Dec.	1,200	300	Industrial Agreement under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.	Increase, 2d. per hour to all grades of workers.
<i>Melbourne.</i> Henry Berry & Co. Teapackers and Others.	2nd Dec.	111	..	Direct negotiations between representatives of employers and employees after a stoppage of work.	Increase in earnings due to extension of working hours averaged 2s. 2d. per week.
Oil Storage— Storemen and Packers.	3rd Dec.	94	..	Direct negotiations between representatives of employers and employees.	Increase from 48s. to 57s. 6d. per week.
<i>Melbourne and Geelong.</i> Wool, Skin and Grain Storage— Storemen and Packers.	6th Dec.	664	..	Direct negotiations between representatives of employers and employees after a stoppage of work.	Increase from 51s. to 54s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Undertaking— All Occupations.	10th Dec.	126	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase : Coffin- makers, 8s.; con- ductors, 4s.; drivers, 5s.; and improvers (average) 2s. 3d. per week.
Oven and Stove Making— All Occupations.	10th Dec.	150	..	Do.	Increase averaged 5s. per week.
Agricultural Im- plement Making— All Occupations.	13th Dec.	940	..	Do.	Increase averaged 4s. per week.
Iron Bedstead Making— All Occupations.	17th Dec.	230	..	Do.	Increase of from 1s. to 3s., averaging 2s. per week.
Fellmongering— All Occupations.	17th Dec.	160	..	Direct negotiations between representatives of employers and employees assisted by a third party.	Increase to minimum of 50s. per week.
Glass Bottle Making. Furnacemen and others.	18th Dec.	227	..	Industrial agreement under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.	Increase : furnace- men, 1s per shift; Assistants, 10s. 6d. and others, 9s. per week.
Electroplating— All Occupations.	20th Dec.	160	..	Determination of Wages Board	Increases of from 2s. to 6s., averaging 5s. per week.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Fruit Preserving— Female Jam Workers.	20th Dec.	..	320	Determination of Wages Board.	Voluntary increase in July to male work- ers, confirmed by Wages Board. Fe- male fillers granted increase of 1s. per week.
Fish and Poultry Supply— Bench-hands and Others.	20th Dec.	300	..	Do.	Increase: Shopmen, 45s. to 48s.; block hands, 50s. to 57s. 6d.; all others, ex- cluding rabbit boners and foremen 45s. to 50s. per week
<i>Melbourne.</i> Defence Equipment, Saddlers & Harness Makers.	22nd Dec.	230	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase from 54s. to 66s. per week.
<i>Port of Melbourne.</i> Waterside Working, Wheat Loaders.	23rd Dec.	400	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees, after a stoppage of work.	Increase from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per hour.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Iron and Steel Moulding— All Occupations.	28th Dec.	1,025	..	Determination of Wages Board after a stoppage of work	Increases averaging 4s. per week.
<i>Various.</i> Engine Driving— Drivers and Fire- men.	Various.	30	..	Industrial agreements under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase averaging 3s. per week.
<b>Queensland.</b>					
<i>Northern Division.*</i> Mechanical Engineering— Engineers and Allied Occupations.	6th June	400	..	Award of Industrial Court on Appeal.	Increases averaging 14s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Railways.* Wages Staff.	1st July	2,349	..	Voluntary action of Minister for Rail- ways.	Increase averaging about 8½ per cent.
<i>South Eastern Division.</i> Saw Milling*— All Occupations.	1st July	887	..	Award of Industrial Court on Appeal.	Increase of ½d. per per hour.
<i>Whole State.*</i> Postal Department. Sorters.	6th Aug.	92	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increases averaging £11 per annum.
<i>Central Division.*</i> Engine Driving— Drivers, Firemen, etc.	6th Sept.	300	..	Award of Industrial Court on Appeal.	Increases averaging 10s. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Tanning and Curry- ing— All Occupations.	1st Oct.	189	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase, 3s. per week.
<i>Sth. Eastern Division,</i> <i>excluding Brisbane.</i> Mechanical Engineering— Engineers and allied Occupations.	2nd Oct.	600	..	Award of Industrial Court on Appeal.	Increase, 1½d. per hour.

\* Particulars not available in time for inclusion in results of changes during previous quarters.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Sth. Eastern Division.</i> House Painting— Painters and Decorators.	11th Oct.	150	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6½d. per hour.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Wool & Skin Stores. Labourers in Agricultural Pro- duce Stores.	18th Oct.	90	..	Do.	Increase from 48s. to 52s. 6d. per week.
<i>Mackay.</i> Building Trades— Carpenters and Joiners.	18th Oct.	60	..	Do.	Increase from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. per hour. Weekly hours re- duced from 46 to 44 hours.
<i>Hughenden.</i> Railway Construc- tion— Ballast Pit Labourers.	18th Oct.	8	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 10s. 6d. to 12s. per day.
<i>Port of Brisbane.</i> River and Bay Steamers. Masters and Others	28th Oct.	160	..	Award of Industrial Court after com- pulsory conference.	Increase: Masters & engineers from 64s 2d. to 67s. 6d.; fire- men to minimum of 60s., and deck- hands to minimum of 52s. 6d. per week
<i>Gympie.</i> Metalliferous Mining Surface and Under- ground Workers.	4th Nov.	700	..	Award of Industrial Court.	Increases averaging 11s. per week.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Gas Supply— Lamp Lighters and Attendants.	4th Nov.	27	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase: Lamp lighters, from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per shift; and attendants from 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1¾d. per hour.
Iron and Steel Working— Assistants.	7th Nov.	320	..	Do.	Increase, 1½d. pe- hour.
<i>Sth. Eastern Division excluding Brisbane.</i> Iron and Steel Working— Assistants.	10th Nov.	350	..	Award of Industrial Court after com- pulsory Conference.	Increase: to Adults, 1½d.; and young workers, ¾d. per hour.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Retail Butchering— Shopmen & Others.	15th Nov.	300	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase, 5s. per week.
<i>Townsville.</i> Iron and Steel Working— Assistants.	15th Nov.	50	..	Do.	Increase averaging 13s. per week.
<i>Southern Division ex- cluding Brisbane.</i> Land Transport— Carters & Drivers.	20th Nov.	650	..	Do.	Increases averaging 4s. 6d. per week.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Brewing— All Occupations.	22nd Nov.	176	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase, 6s. per week.
Mechanical Engineering— Engineers and Allied Occupations.	22nd Nov.	900	..	Award of Industrial Court on Appeal.	Increase to drillers, 4d. per hour; other occupations 3d. per hour.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Mount Morgan.</i> Metalliferous Mining Boilermakers and Mechanics.	22nd Nov.	156	..	Award of Industrial Court.	Increase : Labourers 8s.; blacksmiths, 12s.; others, 10s. per week.
Miners and Others.	22nd Nov.	931	..	Do.	Increase, 2d. per hour all occupation.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Postal Department. Cleaners.	1st Dec.	4	8	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase to male cleaners, 3s.; and to female cleaners, 2s. 6d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Sugar Refining— All Occupations.	1st Dec.	230	..	Award of Industrial Board.	Increase averaging 3s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department. Postmasters.	1st Dec.	141	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging £21 per annum.
<i>Brisbane.</i> Oil Stores. Storemen and Packers.	3rd Dec.	76	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase : Weekly hands, 50s. to 57s. 6d.; casuals, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 9d. per hour.
<i>Townsville.</i> Land Transport. Carters & Drivers.	6th Dec.	120	..	Award of Industrial Court after com- pulsory conference.	Increase, 5s. per week
<b>Sth. Australia.</b>					
<i>Metropolitan Area.*</i> Artificial Manure Making— All Occupations.	5th Aug.	82	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increases averaging 6s. per week.
<i>Whole State.*</i> Postal Department, Sorters.	6th Aug.	88	..	Do.	Increase averaging £12 per annum.
<i>Adelaide.*</i> Tramway Service. All Occupations.	7th Sept.	235	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increases : Conduc- tors, 4d.; labourers, cleaners (track and car), 3d. per hour; horse car drivers, 3s. 6d. per week.
<i>Port Pirie.*</i> Metalliferous Smelting— Mechanics and Others.	12th Sept.	1,605	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase, 1s. per shift to adults; and to boys averaging 4s. 8d. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> State Works. Labourers & Others	22nd Sept.	2,631	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase to labourers, city work, 1s., and country work, 2s. per day; to gangers and foremen, aver- aging 16s. 9d., and to others, 8s. 8d. per week.
<i>Adelaide.</i> Brewing— Firemen (Gas).	1st Oct.	11	..	Voluntary action of employers.	Increase from 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per day.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Undertaking— Coffin-makers and Others.	1st Nov.	35	..	Award of Industrial Court after com- pulsory conference.	Increase: Coffin mak- ers, 4s.; coachmen and yardmen, 5s. per week.

\* Particulars not available in time for inclusion in results of changes during previous quarters.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality. Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Retail Milk Vending. Carters.	8th Nov.	75	..	Award of Industrial Court after com- pulsory conference.	Increase from 48s. to 50s. 6d. per week.
Tanning and Currying— All Occupations.	18th Nov.	220	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases of from 6s. to 13s. per week, averaging 11s.
Laundrying— Female Employees and Drivers.	18th Nov.	6	140	Determination of Wages Board.	Increases to females averaged 2s. 3d. per week; drivers from 40s. to 48s. per wk.
<i>Port Pirie.</i> Land Transport. Carters & Carriers.	20th Nov.	75	..	Award of Industrial Court after com- pulsory conference.	Increase, 6s. per week
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Brewing— All Occupations.	22nd Nov.	280	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase: Adults, 6s; boys and youths (average) 3s. 6d. per per week.
<i>Port Adelaide.</i> Waterside Workers. Timber Stackers.	25th Nov.	90	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 9d. per hour.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Gas Supply— Stokers, Yardmen and Others.	26th Nov.	202	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration	Increase: Stokers & engine-drivers, 7s. 6d.; other occupa- tions, 6s. per week.
<i>Adelaide.</i> Postal Department. Female Cleaners.	1st Dec.	..	5	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 25s. to 25s. 8d. & 27s. 6d. per week.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Bootmaking— Makers & Female Machinists.	1st Dec.	330	150	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase: Males, 6s.; and Females, 7s. per week.
<i>Port Pirie.</i> Bread Supply.— Carters.	1st Dec.	22	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees, assisted by a third party.	Increase, 6s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department, Postmasters.	1st Dec.	119	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increases averaging £22 per annum.
<i>Adelaide.</i> Oil Stores— Storemen and Packers.	3rd Dec.	160	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 50s. to 57s. 6d.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Brickmaking— All Occupations.	3rd Dec.	150	..	Award of Industrial Court.	Decrease to employees making bricks in excess of 2½ inches in thickness. Deter- mination of Wages Board of 3rd Sept., 1915, revoked on appeal.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Adelaide.</i> Brewing— Engine-drivers and Firemen.	17th Dec.	32	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase, 1s. per day.; drivers from 11s. to 12s., & firemen from 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Aerated Waters Manufacture— Carters and Drivers.	24th Dec.	70	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase : Drivers, one horse, 6s.; dri- vers two horses and stablemen, 5s. per week.
<i>Renmark.</i> Fruit Harvesting— All Grades, Pickers and Others.	1st Dec.	500	100	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase, 2d. per hour to all grades of workers.
<i>Metropolitan Area.</i> Various— Engine Drivers.	Various.	10	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase: 6s. per week
<b>Western Australia.</b>					
<i>East-West Railway.*</i> Commonwealth Railways— Traffic Employees.	1st Mar.	82	..	Voluntary action of Commissioner.	Decrease : Guards, 5s.; shunters, 6s., and porters, 1s. per week.
<i>Whole State.*</i> Postal Department. Sorters.	6th Aug.	86	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging £15 per annum.
<i>Henderson.</i> Naval Base. Carpenters.	14th Oct.	16	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase, 1s. per day, from 12s. to 13s.
<i>Kellerberrin.</i> Agricultural. Chaffcutting.	5th Nov.	50	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees after stop- page of work.	Increase from 35s. per week and found to 40s. per week and found.
<i>Collie River.</i> Collieries— Miners on Face.	15th Nov.	50	..	Award of Arbitration Court.	Increase estimated on change from day rate of 12s. 1d. to tonnage rate, 2s. 3d. per ton, equal to 1s. 6d. per day.
<i>Henderson.</i> Naval Base— Labourers and Boatmen.	15th Nov.	86	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase, 1s. per day to labourers and 6d. per day to boat- men.
<i>Coastal Districts.</i> Brewing. All Occupations.	19th Nov.	300	..	Industrial agreement under State Act.	Increase to 60s. mini- mum; cylinder men, 65s.; average, 4s. 6d. per week.
<i>Perth.</i> Hairdressing— Journeyman.	22nd Nov.	83	..	Award of Arbitration Court.	Increase, 55s. * to 60s. per week.

\* Particulars not available in time for inclusion in results of changes during previous quarters.

Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Perth.</i> Electrical Engineering— Electricians and Others.	22nd Nov.	30	..	Award of Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging 6s. per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department. Postmasters.	1st Dec.	142	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging £21 per annum.
<i>Midland.</i> Municipal Authority Sanitary Carters and Others.	1st Dec.	18	..	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase, 1s. per day.
<i>Perth.</i> Postal Department. Female Cleaners.	1st Dec.	.	7	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 25s. to 27s. 6d. per week.
Saddle and Harness Making— Journeymen.	23rd Dec.	35	..	Award of Arbitration Court.	Increase, 10s. per week; collar mak- ers, 55s. to 65s.; others, 50s. to 60s.
<i>Kalgoorlie.</i> Licensed Victualling. Barmaids, Barmen and Others.	31st Dec.	100	60	Industrial Agreement under State Act.	Increase averaging 5s. to barmaids and barmen; and to yardmen, 6s. per week.
<b>Tasmania.</b>					
<i>Whole State.*</i> State Railways— Lad Porters.	1st May.	90	..	Voluntary action of Minister for Rail- ways.	Increase averaging 8s. 9d. per week.
<i>Whole State.*</i> Postal Department. Sorters.	6th Aug.	22	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging £11 per annum.
<i>Whole State.*</i> Quarrying— Employees in Blue- stone Quarries.	3rd Sept.	200	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase averaging 6s. per week.
<i>Launceston.*</i> Municipal Authority. Labourers and Drivers.	20th Sept.	90	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase, 3s. to mini- mum of 48s. per week.
Tramway Service* Motormen and Others.	24th Sept.	58	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase: Motormen, 2s.; conductors, 1s. 6d.; and car clean- ers, 3s. per week.
<i>Hobart &amp; Launceston.</i> Land Transport— Carters & Drivers.	25th Oct.	670	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase, 5s. per week
<i>Mount Bischoff.</i> Metalliferous Mining Engine Drivers.	10th Nov.	3	..	Voluntary action of employers.	Increase from 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per day.
<i>Hobart &amp; Launceston.</i> Brewing— All Occupations other than Coopers.	15th Nov.	80	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase from 49s. to to 54s. per week.

\* Particulars not available in time for inclusion in results of changes during previous quarters.



Particulars of Changes in Rates of Wages during the 4th Quarter, 1915.—*cont.*

Locality, Industry and Occupations Affected.	Date from which Change took Effect.	Approximate No. of Workpeople Affected.		Method by which Change brought about.	Particulars of Change.
		Males.	Females.		
<i>Hobart &amp; Launceston.</i> Gas Supply— Yardmen & Others.	26th Nov.	120	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase at Launce- ton 3d., & at Hobart 6d. per shift.
<i>Mount Lyell.</i> Metalliferous Mining— Engine Drivers & Allied Occupations.	27th Nov.	88	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase, 1s. per shift.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department. Female Cleaners.	1st Dec.	..	8	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase from 25s. to 27s. 6d. per week.
<i>Hobart.</i> Municipal Authority Labourers.	1st Dec.	70	..	Do.	Increase, 3s., from 45s to 48s. per week.
Land Transport— Cab Drivers.	1st Dec.	60	..	Determination of Wages Board.	Increase averaging 7s per week.
<i>Whole State.</i> Postal Department. Postmasters.	1st Dec.	44	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase averaging £23 per annum.
<i>Hobart &amp; Launceston.</i> Oil Stores— Storemen and Packers.	3rd Dec.	4	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees.	Increase, from 45s. to to 57s. 6d. per week
<i>Mt. Nicholas and Cornwall.</i> Collieries— Surface and Under- ground Workers.	4th Dec.	120	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act after a com- pulsory conference.	Increase to shiftmen 7s. 6d., and to miners and others 6s. per week.
<b>Northern Territory.</b>					
<i>Darwin.*</i> Railway Construction— Labourers loading sleepers.	25th Sept.	12	..	Direct negotiations between repre- sentatives of em- ployers and em- ployees after stop- page of work.	Increase from 1s. 10½d. to 2s. per hour.
<i>Darwin.</i> Engineering Construction— Fitters and Others.	1st Oct.	23	..	Direct negotiations between employers and employees after stoppage of work.	Increase, 1d. per hour
<b>All States.</b>					
<i>All States.</i> Vessels in Inter- State trade— Stewards and Pantrymen.	1st Dec.	1,000	..	Industrial Agreement under Common- wealth Arbitration Act.	Increase to all grades 30s. per month.
<i>All States.</i> Vessels in Inter- State trade— Seamen.	1st Dec.	9,000	..	Award of Common- wealth Arbitration Court.	Increase to all grades 25s. per month.

\* Particulars not available in time for inclusion in results of changes during previous quarters.

## SECTION VIII.—CURRENT RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

1. **General.**—The particulars given herein relate to wages and hours of labour in the six capital towns of the Commonwealth, with the exception of those comprised in Industrial Groups VIII. (Mining), XI. (Shipping), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.), which obviously relate mainly to industries, trades, and occupations carried on outside the metropolitan areas. The wages shewn in the tables are the rates payable to adult male and female workers respectively, for a full week's work. In a few instances, however, where wages are earned on a daily or hourly basis only, and where a definite number of working hours are fixed or recognised as constituting a full weeks work (*e.g.*, in the building trades), the corresponding weekly rates are given. If some such method were not adopted in these instances, the rates would not be on a comparative basis with those payable in industries wherein the rate of wage is fixed as a weekly one. With comparatively few exceptions the rates of wages shewn in the tables represent the weighted average nominal rate computed from minimum rates fixed under the operations of the Arbitration Court or Wages Board Acts in the several States. In cases where such minimum rates have been fixed for certain trades or occupations in some, but not all of the States, the ruling trade union or predominant rates are taken for those States in which no minimum rate has been fixed.

In Labour Bulletin No. 11 (Appendixes I. and II.), details were given to the 30th September, 1915, regarding weekly rates of wages and hours of labour in each State for males and females respectively, classified according to industrial groups. Those particulars were in respect to the rates of wages and hours of labour in 146 different industries, the number of separate trades and occupations specified being 930 in the case of males, and 92 in the case of females.

2. **Relative Weekly Wages and Wage Index-Numbers in Different Industries and States, 31st December, 1915.**—The particulars given in the Appendixes (I. and II.), referred to in the preceding paragraph, being revised to the 31st December, 1915, furnish the necessary data for the computation of relative wages in different industries and States to that date. In the following tables the arithmetic average of these rates of wages has been computed for each industry and State, and these averages have been weighted in the manner indicated on pages 23 and 24 of Labour Report No. 2.\*

\* The weights used in the computation of the average wage were as follows :—

### Wage Index-Numbers for Male Occupations, Weights used for each Industrial Group.

Particulars.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.	XIV.
N.S.W. ..	136	228	199	84	65	162	252	343	187	74	137	704	134	902
Victoria ..	118	195	160	95	58	141	190	157	136	54	65	455	95	734
Queensland	67	62	108	23	20	34	70	133	73	22	45	352	45	302
S. Australia	24	71	45	16	13	40	68	29	48	17	44	182	24	223
W. Australia	65	36	32	7	8	16	32	142	40	9	32	118	31	158
Tasmania	25	14	17	6	5	7	20	49	10	6	12	104	10	80
C'wealth ..	435	606	561	231	169	400	632	853	494	182	335	1,915	339	2,399

The weights used in the computation of the average wage were as follows :—

**Wage Index-Numbers for Female Occupations. Weights used for each Industrial Group.**

Particulars.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	I. II. V. VI. Other Manufactures	XIII. Hotels, Restaur- ants, etc.	XIV. Shop Assist- ants Clerks, etc.
New South Wales .. ..	23	228	44	104	124
Victoria .. ..	28	320	57	80	111
Queensland .. ..	5	80	8	47	40
South Australia .. ..	3	56	7	22	32
Western Australia .. ..	1	29	..	29	..
Tasmania .. ..	1	18	2	8	..
Commonwealth .. ..	61	731	118	290	307

(i.) *Weighted Average, Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each State, 31st December, 1915.*—The following table shews the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult male workers for a full week's work in each State and the Commonwealth. Taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as the base (= 1000), index-numbers for each State are also shewn. The results given in the table below must be taken subject to certain qualifications inasmuch as (a) they are based on a limited number of rates of wages, and (b) the lists of occupations to which the wages refer are not by any means uniform in the several States. Any results in order to be representative for each State must necessarily be subject to the latter qualification, inasmuch as the industrial occupations of the people are not by any means identical in the several States. The following results are, however, based on wages in a large number of important industries, and serve to indicate with a considerable degree of precision the relative conditions in the several States.

**Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 31st December, 1915.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Number of Occupations included ..	874	909	627	567	489	482	3,948
Weighted Average Weekly Rate of Wages	s. d. 57 7	s. d. 55 3	s. d. 54 4	s. d. 54 8	s. d. 63 4	s. d. 53 3	s. d. 56 6
Index-Numbers	1,019	978	960	968	1,121	942	1,000†

† Weighted average.

The results shew that nominal rates of wages are highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania.

(ii.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Male Workers in each Industrial Group, 31st December, 1915.*—The following table gives similar particulars in regard to the several industrial groups and to the weighted average for all groups combined. In computing, the index-numbers the weighted average is again taken as base (= 1000.)

**Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Male Workers for a full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each Industrial Group, 31st December, 1915.**

Industrial Groups.	No. of Rates Included.	Weighted Aver. Weekly Wage (for Full Week's Work).		Index-Numbers.
		s.	d.	
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	270	60	2	1,065
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . . . .	636	60	2	1,066
III. Food, Drink, etc. . .	576	57	9	1,023
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. . .	124	53	2	942
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	205	64	6	1,141
VI. Other Manufacturing . .	875	57	8	1,020
VII. Building . . . . .	190	65	10	1,166
VIII. Mining . . . . .	161	66	7	1,179
IX. Rail & Tram Services, etc.	224	60	10	1,077
X. Other Land Transport . .	70	53	4	944
XI. Shipping, etc.† . . . .	198	52	7	931
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.*	72	49	8	880
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.*	114	48	7	860
XIV. Miscellaneous . . . . .	233	54	7	966
All Groups . . . . .	3,948	56	6	1,000†

\* The value of Board and Lodging (estimated at 15s. per week for Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart, and estimated at 14s. per week for Melbourne) is included where supplied, in order that the results may be comparable with the rates paid in other industries.

† Weighted average.

‡ The value of victualling and accommodation (estimated at 45s. per month) included where supplied.

The above figures shew that the highest average wage is that paid in Group VIII. (Mining), 66s. 7d., per week, about 18 per cent. above the weighted average for all groups, and the lowest in Group XIII. (Hotels, etc.), or 48s. 7d. week, or 14 per cent. below the average for all groups.

(iii.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Female Workers in each State, 31st December, 1915.*—The following table shews the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State, and the Commonwealth. Taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as base (= 1000), index-numbers for each State are also

shewn. The figures given in this table are subject to the qualifications, regarding want of uniformity in the data for the several States, stated in paragraph (i.).

**Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in each State and Commonwealth, 31st December, 1915.**

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Number of Occupations included	85	87	37	47	24	28	308
Weighted Average Weekly Rate of Wage	s. d. 27 5	s. d. 26 11	s. d. 26 11	s. d. 24 6	s. d. 37 5	s. d. 28 0	s. d. 27 4*
Index-Numbers	979	985	985	896	1,369	1,026	1,000*

\* Weighted average.

It will be seen that nominal rate of wage for female workers is highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by Tasmania, New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland (equal), and South Australia.

(iv.) *Weighted Average Nominal Rates of Wage Payable to Adult Female Workers in Industrial Groups, 31st December, 1915.*—The following table gives separate particulars regarding the nominal rate of wage of females in those industrial groups in which they are mainly employed, and also shews the weighted average for all groups combined. Index-numbers based on the average nominal wage for the Commonwealth as base (= 1000) are also given:—

**Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers for a Full Week's Work, and Wage Index-Numbers in Industrial Groups, 31st December, 1915.**

Industrial Groups.	No. of Rates Included.	Weighted Aver. Weekly Wage (for Full Week's Work).	Index-Numbers *
		s. d.	
III. Food, Drink, etc... ..	35	24 9	892
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. ..	114	25 1	917
I., II., V., VI. Other Manufacturing .. ..	84	27 4	999
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	57	30 9*	1,126
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc	18	30 1	1,100
All Groups .. ..	308	27 4	1,000†

\* Including the value of Board and Lodging (estimated at 15s. per week) for Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, and Hobart, and (estimated at 14s. per week) for Melbourne, where supplied, in order that the results may be comparable with the rates paid in other industries.

† Weighted average.

The results set out above shews that omitting Group XIII. (Hotels, Restaurant, and Domestic Workers), the highest average wage is that paid in Group XIV. (Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.), 30s. 1d., or 10 per cent. higher than the average wage for all groups. This is followed in the order named by Groups I., II., V., and VI. (Other Manufacturing), 27s. 4d., Group IV. (Clothing, Boots, etc.), 25s. 1d., and Group III. (Food, Drink, etc.), 24s. 9d., being 0.1 per cent., 8.3 and 10.8 per cent. respectively, below the weighted average wage for all groups. It should be observed that the wage specified for the highest Group (Domestic, Hotels, etc.) includes not only the wages paid in money, but also the money equivalent of board and lodging, where such is provided.

**3. Relative Hours of Labour and Hourly Rates of Wages, 31st December, 1915.**—The rates of wages referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this Section relate to the minimum rates payable for a full week's work. It should be observed, however, that the number of hours which constitute a full week's work differs in many instances, not only as between various trades and occupations in each individual State, but also as between the same trades and occupations in the several States. In order to secure what may be for some purposes a more adequate standard of comparison, it is therefore desirable to reduce the results given in the preceding paragraphs to a common basis, viz., the rate of wage per hour. Particulars are given in the following table, classified according to States as well as industrial groups.

(i.) *Males*.—The table on page 413 shews (a) the average weekly wage, (b) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (c) the average hourly wage for each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Owing to the fact that many of the occupations included in these two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and that the hours of labour in these occupations are not regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or otherwise, the necessary data for the computation of the average number of working hours are not available.

The general effect of reducing the rates of wages to a common basis (*i.e.*, per hour) is to decrease the amount of the difference between the several States. In Western Australia, however, the fact that the average hours per week is less than in any other State causes a corresponding increase in the hourly rate of wage as compared with the other States. On page 409 index-numbers are given shewing the relative average *weekly* rate of wage for each State; the corresponding index-numbers for the *hourly* rate, taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as base (= 1000) are as follows:—New South Wales, 1,009; Victoria, 977; Queensland, 978; South Australia, 972; Western Australia, 1,147; and Tasmania, 918.

**Weighted Average Nominal Weekly and Hourly Rate of Wage, Payable to Adult Male Workers, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1915.\***

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.†	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Average for Six Capital Towns.
I. Wood, Furniture etc.	Weekly Wage	61/9	58/3	58/-	55/8	66/1	54/10	60/2
	Working Hours	48.02	48.07	46.24	48.00	48.00	48.00	47.75
	Hourly Wage	1/3½	1/2½	1/3	1/2	1/4½	1/3½	1/3
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.	Weekly Wage	61/10	59/10	56/10	55/10	67/4	55/9	60/2
	Working Hours	48.00	48.00	45.65	48.00	48.00	48.00	47.76
	Hourly Wage	1/3½	1/3	1/3	1/2	1/4½	1/2	1/3
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	59/7	56/3	57/11	56/1	59/2	52/8	57/9
	Working Hours	48.71	48.87	49.93	49.28	49.72	49.39	49.10
	Hourly Wage	1/2½	1/1½	1/2	1/1½	1/2½	1/0½	1/2
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	55/3	51/3	52/3	51/7	63/2	49/11	53/2
	Working Hours	47.80	48.0	48.00	48.00	48.00	46.86	47.90
	Hourly Wage	1/2	1/0½	1/1	1/1	1/3½	1/0½	1/1½
V. Books, Printing, etc.	Weekly Wage	66/4	64/9	59/4	60/3	68/5	61/9	64/6
	Working Hours	46.69	45.76	45.60	47.56	45.73	46.52	46.26
	Hourly Wage	1/5	1/5	1/3½	1/3½	1/6	1/4	1/4½
VI. Other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	58/10	56/10	54/7	55/10	64/6	55/2	57/8
	Working Hours	48.02	48.18	47.45	48.21	48.10	48.24	47.50
	Hourly Wage	1/2½	1/2½	1/1½	1/2	1/4	1/1½	1/2½
VII. Building .. ..	Weekly Wage	68/8	64/10	61/11	62/9	68/6	59/6	65/10
	Working Hours	47.18	44.82	44.00	47.11	47.90	46.37	46.12
	Hourly Wage	1/5½	1/5½	1/5	1/4	1/5½	1/3½	1/5½
VIII. Mining† .. ..	Weekly Wage	64/9	57/5	69/10	64/3	80/9	58/9	66/3
	Working Hours	47.76	47.67	46.17	47.71	47.54	48.00	47.47
	Hourly Wage	1/4½	1/2½	1/6½	1/4½	1/8½	1/2½	1/4½
IX. Rail & Tram Services	Weekly Wage	63/-	59/-	59/3	59/9	63/1	53/10	60/10
	Working Hours	49.07	48.77	49.32	48.50	48.41	49.10	48.91
	Hourly Wage	1/3½	1/2½	1/2½	1/2½	1/3½	1/1½	1/3
X. Other Land Transport	Weekly Wage	53/5	53/7	51/8	50/9	62/9	49/3	53/4
	Working Hours	55.46	53.63	56.50	50.73	48.00	52.78	54.14
	Hourly Wage	0/11½	1/-	0/11	1/-	1/3½	0/11½	0/11½
XI. Shipping, etc.‡ ..	Weekly Wage	52/5	52/6	51/2	55/8	50/10	53/7	52/7
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.¶	Weekly Wage	50/11	48/6	47/9	48/2	52/10	52/5	49/8
	Working Hours	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Hourly Wage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.§	Weekly Wage	50/-	46/9	47/7	49/8	50/2	42/6	48/7
	Working Hours	57.43	57.05	59.30	55.70	55.60	58.00	57.30
	Hourly Wage	0/10½	0/9½	0/9½	0/10½	0/10½	0/8½	0/10½
XIV. Miscellaneous ..	Weekly Wage	55/3	54/10	51/2	54/9	58/-	49/5	54/7
	Working Hours	49.97	48.84	49.28	48.24	47.03	48.50	49.13
	Hourly Wage	1/1½	1/1½	1/0½	1/1½	1/2½	1/0½	1/1½
All Groups .. ..	Weekly Wage**	57/7	55/3	54/4	54/8	63/4	53/3	56/6
	Working Hours††	49.28	48.50	48.56	48.50	48.12	48.56	48.77
	Hourly Wage††	1/2½	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/4½	1/1½	1/2½

\* Hourly rates have been published as follows:—To 30th April, 1914 (Labour Report, No. 5, pp. 49-50); to 31st March, 1915 (Labour Bulletin, No. 9, pp. 72-3); to 30th June, 1915 (Labour Bulletin, No. 10, pp. 175-6); and to 30th September, 1915 (Labour Bulletin, No. 11, pp. 264-5.)

† Particulars relate to the **Average Weighted** weekly wage, working hours and hourly wage, respectively. ‡ Average wages and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State, respectively.

§ Average wages quoted include value of victualling and accommodation, where provided, at 45s. per month, but does not include value of commission on Bar Sales to Stewards. ¶ Average wages include value of Board and Lodging (estimated at 15s. per week) where provided.

§ Including value of Board and/or Lodging where supplied. In Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, and Hobart the value of Board and Lodging has been valued by Awards and Determinations at 15s. per week. In Melbourne it has been determined by a Wages Board at 14s. per week. \*\* All industrial groups. †† Omitting groups XI. and XII



(ii.) *Females*.—On page 411 index-numbers are given, shewing the relative average *weekly* rate of wage for each State; the corresponding index-numbers for the *hourly* rate, taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as the basis (= 1000), are as follows:—New South Wales, 996; Victoria, 998; Queensland, 970; South Australia, 892; Western Australia, 1349; and Tasmania, 1004.

**Weighted Average Nominal Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage payable to Adult Female Workers and Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1915.\***

Industrial Groups.	Particulars.†	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Average for Six Capital Towns.
III. Food, Drink, etc.	Weekly Wage	25/3	25/1	19/3	21/0	21/3	24/9	23/9
	Working Hours	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00
	Hourly Wage	0/6½	0/6½	0/4½	0/5½	0/5½	0/6;	0/6
IV. Clothing, Boots, etc.	Weekly Wage	25/4	24/8	23/6	22/5	35/10	26/3	25/1
	Working Hours	47.86	48.00	48.00	48.00	48.00	47.00	47.93
	Hourly Wage	0/6½	0/6½	0/5½	0/5½	0/9	0/6½	0/6½
I, II, V. & VI. All other Manufacturing	Weekly Wage	27/10	27/7	22/4	27/0	..	27/6	27/4
	Working Hours	47.30	47.90	47.43	48.00	..	48.00	47.65
	Hourly Wage	0/7	0/7	0/5½	0/6½	..	0/6½	0/7
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	Weekly Wage‡	29/6	28/4	32/10	28/9	39/7	32/8	30/9
	Working Hours	51.62	50.77	55.17	52.44	51.80	58.00	52.22
	Hourly Wage	0/6½	0/6½	0/7½	0/6½	0/9½	0/6½	0/7
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc.	Weekly Wage	29/7	32/6	28/9	25/0	..	..	30/1
	Working Hours	51.57	48.50	48.00	50.00	..	..	49.83
	Hourly Wage	0/6½	0/8	0/7½	0/6	..	..	0/7½
All Groups ..	Weekly Wage	27/5	26/11	26/11	24/6	37/5	28/0	27/4
	Working Hours	49.45	48.46	49.84	49.35	49.86	50.14	49.12
	Hourly Wage	0/6½	0/6½	0/6½	0/6	0/9	0/6½	0/6½

\* For details as to previous publications, see previous page. † The particulars relate to the **Average Weighted** weekly wage, working hours and hourly wage, respectively. ‡ The value of Board and Lodging (estimated at 15s. per week) for Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, and Hobart, and (estimated at 14s. per week) for Melbourne, is included where provided, in order that the results may be comparable with the rates paid in other industries.

**4. Relative Increase in Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage by States, 30th April, 1914 to 31st December, 1915.**—In the following table the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage is shewn for adult workers, male and female, separately in each State and the Commonwealth, from the 30th April, 1914, to the 31st December, 1915. The figures in this table therefore shew the movement in wages, due to the effect of new awards, determinations and industrial agreements in each State.

(i.) *Adult Male Workers*.—It will be seen that the weighted average nominal weekly wage for adult male workers for the whole Commonwealth advanced during the period under review by 1s. 5d. or 2.3 per cent. Increases above the average are shewn for New South Wales and Queensland, being 1s. 10d. and 1s. 8d. respectively, or 3.3 per cent. In each of the other States the increase was below the average, being in Victoria 1s., or 1.9 per cent.; in Western Australia 1s. 2d., or 1.8 per cent.,

Tasmania, 9d., or 1.3 per cent., and in South Australia, 4d. or 0.6 per cent. At the 30th April, 1914, the highest rate of wage was 62s. 2d. in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania. At the 31st December, 1915, the positions of the States remained unaltered, with the exception that Victoria displaced South Australia.

(ii.) *Adult Female Workers.*—The weighted average nominal weekly wage for adult female workers, for the whole Commonwealth, shews considerably less movement, being 2d. per week, or about 0.6 per cent. The greatest increase in any one State occurred in Tasmania, where the weighted average nominal weekly wage advanced from 25s. 10d. to 28s., equal to 8.5 per cent. This was due to substantial increases being awarded to workers in the jam and fruit preserving, bootmaking, and clothing industries. New South Wales and South Australia are the only other States to shew any appreciable increase, the amount of which is in New South Wales, 8d., or 2.5 per cent., and in South Australia 5d., or 1.7 per cent. Practically no movement occurred in Queensland and Western Australia. A decrease of 5d. or 1.6 per cent. in Victoria, was brought about by the reduction, on appeal, of wages to female clerks and stenographers.

**Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rate of Wage Payable to Adult Male and Female Workers for a Full Week's Work in each State and Commonwealth, 30th April, 1914, to 31st December, 1915.**

Dates.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
MALES.							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
20th April, 1914* .. ..	55 9	54 3	52 8	54 4	62 2	52 6	55 1
30th June, 1914 .. ..	55 11	54 4	52 10	54 4	62 9	52 7	55 3
30th September, 1914 ..	56 2	54 7	53 4	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 6
31st December, 1914* ..	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7
31st March, 1915* .. ..	56 3	54 8	53 4	54 3	63 1	52 9	55 7
30th June, 1915* .. ..	56 8	54 8	53 4	54 3	63 1	52 9	55 9
30th September, 1915* ..	56 10	54 11	53 8	54 3	63 1	52 9	56 0
31st December, 1915 ..	57 7	55 3	54 4	54 8	63 4	53 3	56 6
FEMALES.							
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
30th April, 1914* .. ..	26 9	27 4	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
30th June, 1914 .. ..	26 9	27 4	27 0	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 2
30th September, 1914 ..	26 10	27 9	26 11	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 4
31st December, 1914* ..	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5
31st March, 1915* .. ..	26 10	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 1
30th June, 1915* .. ..	27 2	26 11	27 2	24 0	37 5	26 3	27 2
30th September, 1915* ..	27 3	26 11	23 11	21 0	37 5	23 0	27 3
31st December, 1915 ..	27 5	26 11	26 11	24 6	37 5	28 0	27 4

\* Details have been published as follows:—To 30th April, 1914 (Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-6; to 31st December, 1914 (Labour Bulletin No. 8, pp. 256-3; to 31st March, 1915, (Labour Bulletin No. 9, pp. 68-71); to 30th June, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 10, pp. 170-6), and to 30th September, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 11, pp. 264-5).

## SECTION IX.—OPERATIONS UNDER ARBITRATION AND WAGES BOARDS ACTS.

1. **General.**—In Labour Bulletin No. 11 (page 267) a comparative statement was furnished of operations under the Commonwealth Arbitration Acts and the State Arbitration Court and Wages Boards Acts, for each quarter from the 1st July, 1914, to the 30th Sept., 1915, inclusive. In the following statement corresponding particulars are given of the number of awards and determinations made and agreements filed in each State and under the Commonwealth Acts during the last quarter of the year 1914, and the four quarters of the year 1915 :—

### Awards and Determinations Made and Industrial Agreements Filed, 1st October, 1914, to 31st December, 1915.

State, etc.	1914.		1915.							
	4th Quarter.		1st Quarter.		2nd Quarter.		3rd Quarter.		4th Quarter.	
	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.	Awards or Determinations made.	Agreements Filed.
N. S. Wales .. ..	12	4	23	9	40	6	33	6	39	4
Victoria .. ..	3	..	3	..	2	..	17	..	31	..
Queensland .. ..	5	..	1	1	7	..	13	2	14	7
S. Australia .. ..	..	6	..	..	..	1	2	..	6	4
W. Australia .. ..	15	3	..	7	4	6	7	5	11	3
Tasmania .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
C'wealth .. ..	..	21*	1	..	2	111†	2	13	2	51
TOTAL .. ..	22	34	35	17	55	124	81	31	103	69

\* Of this number, 18 agreements were made between the Federated Engine drivers' and Firemen's Association and various employers, in terms of an award of the Commonwealth Court.

† Including 108 agreements made between the Federated Engine-drivers' and Firemen's Association and various employers, in terms of an award of the Commonwealth Court.

It will be seen from the foregoing table that the number of Awards and Determinations made by industrial tribunals during the fourth quarter of 1915 was considerably in excess of the average number recorded. The relaxation of those restrictions, which, owing to the drought and the war,\* had been introduced in the several States, has been most effective in Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia. The New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912,† is the only State Act in force in the Commonwealth, under which Awards of Boards are made for a specified period. This provision, and the fact that the Act was in its fourth year of operation, may account for the continued high numbers of Awards made

\* A brief account of the effect of the war on operations in industrial tribunals was given in Labour Bulletin No. 9 (pages 62 to 64). It is intended to publish a more detailed statement at an early date.

† Sec. 25 (1) provides that awards may be made for a period not exceeding three years.

in each quarter of the year. The Western Australian figures include five industrial agreements which by the order of the Industrial Arbitration Court in that State, were declared to be common rules for the industries affected, within certain specified areas.

**2. Boards Authorised, and Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements in Force 31st December, 1915.**—(i.) *New South Wales*.—During the last quarter of the year 1915, very considerable variations were made in this State with respect to—

- (a) the industrial scope of the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912; and
- (b) the sectional arrangement of the industrial boards constituted under that Act.

On the 3rd November, 1915, the industrial application of the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912, as set out in Schedules I. and II. thereto, was further extended by the addition of a number of industries and callings, which were allocated to the various sectional groups of industries for which industrial boards have been constituted. On the 21st December, 1915, the whole of the 221 industrial boards then in existence, including two new boards authorised during October†, were dissolved, and 226 new boards constituted in their stead. A very important re-arrangement of the industrial boards comprising the industrial groups was also effected. Among the industries and callings for which boards were constituted for the first time the following were included :—Knitting, Structural Iron-working, Machine Belt Manufacture, Rubber-working, Jute and other Bag-making, Clerks and Foreman Stevedores. In a number of instances the jurisdiction of certain boards was widened to embrace those constituted for allied industries or callings. This feature is most notable with respect to shop assistants (Professional and Shopworkers Group), and Storemen and others (Transport Group). The number of awards in force at the end of the year 1915 (including 39 made during the quarter) was 261, affecting approximately 260,000 persons. Awards made for the following industries were under suspension, pending the hearing of appeals lodged :—Furniture Trade (Cabinet-makers, etc.), East Greta Railway Wages Staff and Officers' Awards, respectively, Shop Assistants, and Tramway Employees. In the latter instance the minimum wage was fixed at 52s. 6d. per week, and an appeal has been lodged by the Railway Commissioners, who control the service, with respect to increases in the higher rates of wages.

In a pronouncement *re* the living wage, given by Mr. Justice Heydon, Judge of the Court of Industrial Arbitration, on the 17th December last, as a guide to the Industrial Boards, the learned Judge stated : " After a good deal of discussion we have determined to express our view that at the present time the wage for ordinary labourers should be 1s. 1½d. per hour, or 8s. 9d. per day, or 52s. 6d. per week. Other workers cannot claim as a right that their wages are to rise above the labourers' wage in the same proportions as before : that is a matter which the Boards must consider."

(ii.) *Victoria*.—During the quarter under review, no new wages boards were authorised in addition to the 147 authorised at the 30th

† On the 6th October, 1915, industrial boards were authorised under Schedule II. of the Act, for the industries Shirt-making and Dressmaking respectively.

September, 1915. Of those wages boards constituted and in existence, 133 had made determinations, including one by the Fish and Poultry Board, which issued a determination for the first time. The jurisdiction of the Horsehair Board, was on the 29th November last extended from the Metropolitan Area (as defined by the Factories and Shops Act) to apply to the whole State. The total number of determinations in force at the 31st December last was 137, affecting approximately 150,000 workers. Of the 31 determinations issued by wages boards in this State, all but 14 came into force during the quarter under review, the remainder in January, 1916.\* The number of determinations made during the quarter was considerably in excess of the number made during any quarter of the past two years, and substantially reflects the removal of the restrictions which owing to the drought and the war were imposed on the boards during the latter part of the year 1914.

(iii.) *Queensland*.—In Queensland, during the three months ended the 31st December, 1915, a new industrial board, designated the Life Assurance Canvassers' Board, with jurisdiction extending throughout the South-Eastern Division of the State, was authorised and constituted, making a total of 112 industrial boards authorised under the Industrial Peace Act, 1912. Six of these boards had already been dissolved, and two remained to be constituted. Thus, 104 boards were in existence, and of these 96 had made awards. As a result of the declaration, by Orders-in-Council of the 17th August last, that "metalliferous mining" be a calling within the meaning and for the purposes of the Industrial Peace Act, 1912, two awards for engineers, and other iron workers and for surface and underground workers respectively at the Mount Morgan Mine, were delivered on submissions made to the Industrial Court by the Minister for Public Works. In all 14 awards were recorded, 11 by industrial boards, and 3 by the Industrial Court, in addition to 5 judgments by the latter tribunal, on appeals from awards of boards. Of the 11 awards delivered by industrial boards, 3 only became operative during the quarter.† The total number of awards of the Court and of industrial boards in force at the end of the quarter was 103‡, affecting approximately 90,000 workers. Seven industrial agreements of which four were made subsequent to a compulsory conference, were filed during the quarter. One agreement, however, did not come into operation until the 1st January last. It will be seen from the table on page 421 that the operations under the Industrial Peace Act have again assumed normal proportions.

(iv.) *South Australia*.—The suspension on the 26th August last (as reported in the previous issue of this Bulletin) of the awards made by the two boards for Storemen, Packers, Porters and Nightwatchmen, had not, at the end of the fourth quarter of 1915, been removed. On appeal the award, as previously reported, of the Brickmakers' Board, granting higher rates of wages to workmen engaged on making bricks exceeding 2½ inches in thickness, was revoked. During the quarter under review a Reference Board was appointed by executive Act in this State. The

\* Section 164 of the Factories and Shops Act, 1912, provides that determinations of wages boards shall not be in force until after a period of at least 30 days shall have expired from the date of such determination.

† Section 29, Industrial Peace Act 1912, provides that the award of an industrial board, shall not take effect and be in operation until a period (not being within sixty days) shall have expired from the date of such award.

‡ Including an award, House Painters, Brisbane, pending new award to be made by the re-constituted Painters and Decorators' Board.

constitution functions, objects, etc., of the Board are briefly :—"The Government is prepared to meet the various labour organisations whose members are employed from time to time in the different Government Departments with a view to drawing up agreements covering questions of wages and conditions. Any matter not finally settled at such conferences shall be referred to the Reference Board for final settlement." This Reference Board has no absolute legal power, inasmuch as it cannot make an award that has legal recognition within the State, but it has power to settle any matters that may be referred to it when both parties are agreeable to accepting the decision of the Board.

On the 23rd December, 1915, an Act amending the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912, was assented to. The original Bill for this Act contained proposals for —

- (a) the application of the Act to extend to persons in the employ of the Commissioner for Railways and other Government or State authorities ;
- (b) repealing the operation of the original Act to agricultural industries ;
- (c) granting of preference to unionists ;
- (d) the abolition of the prohibition of picketing during strikes, etc. ;
- (e) the abolition of the power to order imprisonment of a person doing anything in the nature of a strike or lock-out ; and
- (f) the regulation of and the registration of industrial associations under the Act.

Each of these proposals with the exception of the last-mentioned were defeated, and the Amended Act contains no legislation other than 28 clauses providing for the legal regulation and registration of industrial associations or unions.

No additional Wages Boards were authorised during the period under review, but two awards were made under Section 13 of the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1912, by the Industrial Court for undertakers' employees, and drivers and stablemen in the employ of milk vendors, these industries not being under Wages Boards. These awards were made to operate within the metropolitan area only, as defined by the Factories Act, 1907. Awards were made in lieu of existing awards by Wages Boards constituted for the boot trade, tanners and curriers, laundry workers, and carters and drivers. The last-mentioned not to operate until the 6th January, 1916.

In all 58 Boards had been authorised, and 51 constituted at the 31st December, 1915, of which 47 only had made awards. The total number of awards in force at that date was 56, excluding two under suspension and including 11 made by the Industrial Court. Including Storemen, Packers, etc. (the awards for which were suspended), the number of persons affected by the 58 awards made was approximately 25,000. Four industrial agreements were filed during the last three months of the year 1915. Two of these were effected by the Minister of Industry by means of the Reference Board, previously mentioned, and related to members of the Australian Workers' Union and various Government Departments, and to employees in the aerated water trade. The remaining two industrial agreements affected horse drivers (Port Pirie) and carters, and drivers employed in the aerated water trade (metropolitan area).

(v.) *Western Australia*.—During the quarter ended the 31st December, 1915, 11 awards were made in this State by the Industrial Arbitration Court. These included declarations by the Court, that industrial agreements previously filed, regulating the following industries, boot trade, hotel employees (barmen and barmaids), and brewing in and around Perth, and butchering in Kalgoorlie be common rules for those industries within the areas specified. The remaining awards affected coal mining (Collie River), engineering, hairdressing, saddlery, masters and engineers on ferry boats (Perth), and bread-baking (Kalgoorlie). The last-mentioned award, however, did not come into operation until January, 1916. An important feature of the Collie River Mining award was the abolition of daily rates of wage, and the introduction of piece rates only, to miners and others mining coal. Notice of retirement from awards for the furniture and tinsmithing trades, by the unions' affected, expired in October last, and those awards are not now legally in operation against the unionists in those trades. 57 awards of Court affecting approximately 32,000 employees, are still unexpired, or have not been retired from in the manner prescribed by Section 83 (2) of the 1912 Act, by the parties bound thereby. Two industrial agreements were filed during the period under review, and in turn were declared by the Court to be common rules. A third agreement (supplementary) annulling a clause relating to preference, was filed prior to a subsisting agreement in the bootmaking trade, being declared a common rule. During the latter part of the year 1914, a general reduction of working time was introduced in this State. This movement took the form of Saturday work being suspended, and the award wage in most industries (being based on a daily rate), allowed of ready adjustment to the conditions. Early in November last the Government decided to revert to the 48-hour week.

(vi.) *Tasmania*.—In Tasmania a wages board for Clothing Trades, was authorised and constituted during the quarter under review, but had not made any determination. The total number of boards authorised in this State, at the 31st December, 1915, was 32, of which one had been declared invalid, 31 had been constituted, and 30 were in existence, and of this latter number 26 had made 29 awards affecting about 12,000 employees. Complete relaxation of the restrictions adopted (owing to the drought and the war), with respect to the operations of wages boards in this State, has not so far eventuated. Some activity however, has been demonstrated in regard to the extension of the application of the Act by the authorisation of new wages boards, but new determinations by existing boards have not been general. One board (Printing) met during the year and adjourned *sine die* without making any determination, owing to the trade considering it inopportune to proceed in that direction until normal conditions are restored. During the last quarter of the year 1915, a new determination, replacing a previous determination for carters and drivers in Hobart and Launceston, and a variation of the subsisting determination in the baking and pastrycooking trade, were made, and came into operation.

(vii.) *Commonwealth*.—Three awards were made, and six awards varied by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, during the quarter under review. Of the three awards made, only those affecting Postmasters, and Saddlery and Leather Workers in the employ

of the Defence Department in Victoria came into force. The remaining award affecting the mining industry in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania being operative only from the 1st January, 1916. In all 20 awards were in force. The number of industrial agreements filed under the Commonwealth Act during the quarter, was 51. Of these 49 were agreements made between the Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association, and separate employers, in terms of the subsisting Commonwealth award, and filed under Section 24 of the Act.

**Boards Authorised and Constituted, Awards, Determinations and Agreements in Force, 31st December, 1915.**

Particulars.	C'wlth.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
<b>1. Boards Authorised, Constituted, and in Force—</b>								
Number of Boards authorised ...	...	226*	147	112	56	...	32	573
"    "    constituted ...	...	226*	142	104	51	...	31	554
"    "    dissolved or superseded† ...	...	...	1	6	...	...	1	8
"    "    in existence ...	...	226*	141	98	51	...	30	546
<b>2. Boards Constituted which have made Awards or Determinations—</b>								
Number of Boards which had made or varied awards or determinations ...	...	196	133	96	47	...	26	498
"    "    which had not made any award or determination ...	...	30	8	2	4	...	4	48
<b>3. Number of Awards and Determinations in Force‡</b> ...	20	261	137	103§	56	57¶	29	663
<b>4. Scope of State Awards and Determinations—</b>								
Number applying to the whole State ...	...	26	12	7	...	...	20	65
"    "    Metropolitan area only ...	...	75	...	30	54	32	1	192
"    "    Metropolitan and Country towns ...	...	38	111	17	...	7	8	181
"    "    Country areas ...	...	122	14	49	2	18	...	205
<b>5. Number of Commonwealth Awards in Force in each State</b> ...	...	17	19	15	16	10	14	91
<b>6. Industrial Agreements in Force</b> ...	359	73	...	15	16	83	...	546
<b>7. Number of Commonwealth Agreements in Force in each State</b> ...	...	119	227	29	36	30	33	...
<b>8. Number of Persons working under State Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements (estimated)††</b> ...	**	260,000	150,000	90,000	25,000	32,000	12,000	**

\* Excluding Special Demarcation Boards. † Boards constituted and subsequently dissolved or superseded. In New South Wales the whole of the Boards were dissolved. For particulars see page 417 herebefore. In Victoria one Board was superseded by three Boards. In Queensland authorisation for two Boards was subsequently rescinded, and four other Boards were superseded for the purpose of varying the jurisdiction. ‡ In addition, 24 determinations had been made, but had not come into operation. Of these, 14 were in Victoria, eight in Queensland, and one each in South Australia and Western Australia. Nearly the whole of these, on coming into force, replace awards and determinations in force at 31st December, 1915. The figures are exclusive of awards and determinations which had expired by effluxion of time, and had not been renewed on the 31st December, 1915, and, with respect to Western Australia, including awards made and expired under the Act of 1902, but which were revived by Sec. 83 (1) of the Act of 1912, and such other awards made under the Act of 1912, to which notice of retirement therefrom has not been filed in terms of Sec. 83 (2) of the Act of 1912. § Including five awards made by the Industrial Court under Sec. 7 of the Industrial Peace Act 1912, for industries not under an Industrial Board, and one owing to the failure of a Board (Sawmilling, Northern Division) to complete its award. || Including 11 awards made by the Industrial Court, and excluding two awards which were suspended on 26th August, 1915. ¶ Including seven industrial agreements, declared by the Industrial Court, under Section 40 of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912, to be common rules respectively for the industries affected, and within the area specified therein. \*\* Not available. †† Not including any allowance for persons, who enlisted in the Defence Forces.



The total number of Boards authorised up to the 31st December, 1915, in the five States in which the Board system is in force was 573 ; the total number constituted being 554, of which 8 had been dissolved or superseded. The number of Boards in existence at that date was accordingly 546, of which 498 had either made original awards or determinations or varied existing awards or determinations, and 48 had not made any award or determination. The difference between the number of Boards in existence and the number which had made awards or determinations, is accounted for mainly by the fact that in New South Wales a number of Boards constituted under the Act of 1912 had not made awards, owing to awards made for the particular industries, under the Act of 1908, being still in force or only recently expired. In the following line (Number of Awards and Determinations in force) it may be seen that the total number in force (including awards made by the Commonwealth and Western Australian Arbitration Courts) was 659. In New South Wales, the number of awards in force includes 4 awards under the Act of 1908. This leaves 257 awards in force made by 196 Boards under the new Act. In explanation of the fact that the number of awards in force in New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania exceeds the number of Boards which had made such awards or determinations, it may be mentioned that several of the Boards have made separate awards for different branches of an industry, or for the same industry, operative in different districts.

As regards the territorial scope of the State awards and determinations in force at the end of December, 1915, it will be seen that 64 apply to the whole of a State, 193 to one of the metropolitan areas, 179 to metropolitan and country towns, while the remaining 203 apply to country areas only.

Of the Commonwealth awards there are three in connection with the shipping industry, two in connection with Waterside Workers, and one each affecting Postal Electricians and the Telegraph and Telephone (Construction) Linemen, Letter Carriers, Postmasters, and Postal Sorters, which apply to each of the six States. There are three awards which apply to five States, two which apply to four States, and three to two States, one to the Small Arms Factory, Lithgow, New South Wales, and one for Saddlery and Leather Workers employed in Victoria by the Defence Department.

The total number of industrial agreements in force was 546. Of this number 359 were made under section 24 and Part VI. of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, and include 234 made on behalf of the Federated Enginedrivers' and Firemen's Association in terms of the Award of the Commonwealth Court ; 29 covering various Shipping Companies, and 26 relating to Typographical Employees in Newspaper Offices. The second last line of the table shews the number of Commonwealth agreements operating in each State. The total number of awards, determinations and agreements in force under the various Acts at the end of December, 1915, was 1209, comprising 663 awards and determinations and 546 agreements.

In the subjoined table particulars are given for the whole Commonwealth of the number of boards authorised, constituted, and in existence, and of the number of awards, determinations, and industrial agreements in force at approximately quarterly periods from the end of the year 1913 to the 31st December, 1915, inclusive.

**Particulars of Boards and of Awards, Determinations and Industrial Agreements in Force, at 31st December, 1913, and Approximately Quarterly Periods to 31st December, 1915.**

Dates.	Boards Authorised.	Boards Constituted.	Boards in Existence.	Boards which had made Awards or Determinations	Awards or Determinations in Force†	Industrial Agreements in Force.
31st Dec., 1913*	504	501	484	387	575§	401
30th April, 1914*	525	509	492	422	575	415
30th June, 1914	537	523	504	457	584	429
30th Sept., 1914*	549	539	517	474	599	409
31st Dec., 1914*	553	544	522	478	576‡	369‡
31st March, 1915*	560	551	526	486	589‡	371‡
30th June, 1915*	568	557	532	495	638	481
30th Sept., 1915*	582	570	536	495	644	498
31st Dec., 1915 ..	573¶	554¶	546	498	663	546

\* Details have already been published as follows :—To 31st December, 1913 (Year Book, No. 7, pp. 931-3); to 30th April, 1914 (Labour Bulletin No. 5, pp. 66-8); to 30th September, 1914 (Labour Report No. 5, pp. 61-2); to 31st December, 1914 (Labour Bulletin No. 8, pp. 266-9); to 31st March, 1915 (Labour Bulletin, No. 9, pp. 73-8); and to 30th June, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 10, pp. 176-180); and to 30th September, 1915 (Labour Bulletin No. 11, pp. 267-272).

† Including awards made by Arbitration Courts as well as Boards and subject to the qualifications referred to on pages 420 and 421, with respect to retirements.

‡ Owing to certain restrictions being imposed on the operations of Industrial Boards in each State, a number of awards which expired in New South Wales during these periods, were not immediately reviewed.

§ Excluding awards or determinations which expired in New South Wales (under the Act of 1908) on 31st December, 1913.

|| Owing to a number of Awards made under the N.S.W. Industrial Disputes Act 1908 being still in force, the Boards constituted for such industries under the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912 had not made any awards.

¶ See remarks with respect to re-authorisation of Boards in New South Wales, page 417 herein before.

## SECTION X.—ASSISTED IMMIGRANTS.

1. **General.**—In the following table particulars are given of the total number of immigrants, the cost of whose passage was wholly or partly defrayed by the State Governments, up to the end of the year 1908, and the number arriving in each year since that date :—

## Commonwealth.—No. of Assisted, Selected, or Nominated Immigrants.

Particulars.	To end of 1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	Total.
No. of Immigrants ..	660,065	9,820	16,781	39,796	46,712	37,445	20,805	5,796	837,200

During the seven years 1909 to 1915, inclusive, the average number of assisted immigrants was 6,327 per quarter, and the average number in 1915 was 1,449 per quarter. The number of assisted immigrants arriving during the fourth quarter of 1915 was 1,264, and during the third quarter 1158, hence the number arriving during the fourth quarter of 1915 was 80 per cent. lower than the average for the seven years 1909 to 1915, 9 per cent. above the number arriving during the previous quarter, and 76 per cent. below the average number for 1914.

2. **Number of Assisted Immigrants in each State, Oct. to Dec., 1915.**—The following table shews the number of selected and nominated immigrants arriving in each State during the fourth quarter of the year 1915 :—

## Assisted Immigrants.—Number Arriving in each State, Oct. to Dec., 1915.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'wlth.
Selected ..	35	168	88	..	10	..	301
Nominated ..	312	188	376	..	68	19	963
TOTAL	347	356	464	..	78	19	1,264

During the quarter under review compared with the third quarter of 1915, there were increases in Queensland and Tasmania of 46 and 111 per cent. respectively, while in the other States there were decreases, New South Wales shewing a decrease of 9 per cent., Victoria 1 per cent., and Western Australia 6 per cent. During the same period the total number of nominated immigrants increased 15 per cent., while that of selected decreased 6 per cent.

3. **Number of Assisted Immigrants, Classified in Industrial Groups, Oct. to Dec., 1915.**—The following table gives particulars of assisted immigrants of each sex, classified according to industrial groups, dependants being specified separately :—

**Assisted Immigrants.—Classified according to Sex and Industrial Group,  
October to December, 1915.**

Industry.	Males.	Females.	Industry.	Males.	Females.
I. Wood, Timber, Furniture, etc. . . . .	3	1	IX. Rail and Tramway Transport . . . . .	1	..
II. Engineering, Metals, etc. . . . .	8	1	X. Other Land Transport . . . . .	2	..
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . . . .	9	8	XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. . . . .	1	..
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . . . .	7	18	XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, Rural, etc. . . . .	74*	1
V. Books, Printing, Binding, etc. . . . .	1	2	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. . . . .	18	265
VI. Other Manufacturing . . . . .	..	5	XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous . . . . .	51	29
VII. Building . . . . .	9	..	Adults . . . . .	60	304
VIII. Mining . . . . .	8	..	Dependants (Children under 12 years . . . . .	191	187
			TOTAL . . . . .	443	821

\* Including 2 "Dreadnought Boys" who arrived in New South Wales.

As regards males, the number of dependants was 251, or 57 per cent. of the whole, and of the balance 74, or 17 per cent. were in Group XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Of these agricultural immigrants, 15 (including 2 "Dreadnought Boys") arrived in New South Wales, 42 in Victoria, 13 in Queensland, and 4 in Western Australia.

Of the 821 female immigrants, 491, or 60 per cent., were dependants, and 265, or 32 per cent., were in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), and of the latter 162, or 61 per cent., were selected, and 103, or 39 per cent., nominated. The number of females in Group XIII., who arrived in the various States during the fourth quarter of 1915 were: New South Wales, 58; Victoria, 101; Queensland, 98; and Western Australia, 8.

## SECTION XI.—STATE FREE EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX.

1. **General.**—In the following paragraphs, particulars are given of the operations of the various State Labour Bureaux. In Labour Report No. 5 (pages 85-8), attention was drawn to the fact that the systems adopted in the several States for the registration of applications for work and of applications from employers are not uniform, and that the comparisons which can be drawn from the figures shewing the results of the operations of these Bureaux are subject to certain limitations.

2. **Applications and Positions Filled, 1913, 1914, and 1915.**—The following table shews the total number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in the Commonwealth during the year 1913, and during each quarter of 1914, and 1915.

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in the Commonwealth, during the Years 1913, 1914, and 1915.**

Year.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Received during Period.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.	Received during Period.	Total.	
1913 .. ..	2,520	81,356	83,876	*321	*26,103	*26,424	35,312
1914—1st Quarter ..	2,326	22,446	24,772	*1,017	*7,776	*8,793	10,006
" 2nd " ..	4,622	22,069	26,691	*460	*7,353	*7,813	9,161
" 3rd " ..	6,850	26,955	33,805	*1,021	*7,754	*8,775	8,360
" 4th " ..	8,892	29,447	38,339	*779	*6,340	*7,119	9,838
1915—1st " ..	9,075	29,941	39,016	†370	†4,445	†4,815	11,131
2nd " ..	9,016	27,051	36,067	†88	†3,411	†3,499	8,323
3rd " ..	8,495	24,322	32,817	†51	†5,790	†5,841	9,888
4th Quarter ..	5,617	20,950	26,567	†546	†7,254	†7,800	9,747

\* Exclusive of Victoria and South Australia for which States particulars are not available.  
† Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

**3. Applications and Positions Filled in each State.**—The following table shews the number of applications for employment and from employers, and the number of positions filled in each State during the fourth quarter of 1915.

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different States, Oct. to Dec., 1915.**

State.	Applications for Employment.			Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	
New South Wales ..	..	3,727	3,727	142	4,399	4,541	*2,461
Victoria ..	3,260	4,314	7,574	†	†	†	1,938
Queensland ..	1,389	7,395	8,784	404	2,844	3,248	*2,630
South Australia ..	693	3,174	3,867	†	†	†	*1,364
Western Australia ..	274	2,274	2,548	†	†	†	1,345
Tasmania ..	1	66	67	..	..	..	9
COMMONWEALTH ..	5,617	20,950	26,567	546	7,254	7,800	9,747

\* Including persons who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution. † Not available.

During the fourth quarter of 1915, out of every 1000 applications for positions, 367 obtained work, as against 300 for the preceding quarter.

4. **Applications and Positions Filled in Various Industrial Groups.**—The following table furnishes particulars for the fourth quarter of 1915 of the operations of the Free Labour Bureaux, classified according to industrial groups :—

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications for Employment and from Employers, and Positions Filled in different Industrial Occupations, October to December, 1915.**

Industrial Group.	Applications for Employment.			§§ Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	¶ On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	¶ Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Notified during Quarter.	Total.	
I. Wood, Furniture, Saw-mill, Timber Workers, etc. . . . .	160	740	900	6	212	218	195
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc.* . .	252	843	1,095	..	168	168	258
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . . . .	13	126	139	1	40	41	38
IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. . .	..	29	29	6	9	15	9
V. Books, Printing, Binding	6	67	73	..	21	21	19
VI. Other Manufacturing	2	34	36	..	28	28	19
VII. Building . . . .	554	2,347	2,901	3	671	674	775
VIII. Mining . . . .	14	233	247	2	153	155	181
IX. Rail and Tram Services†	703	4,176	4,879	48	2,963	3,011	2,743
X. Other Land Transport	..	75	75	..	11	11	14
XI. Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc. . . . .	11	38	49	..	..	..	1
XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, Rural, etc.‡ . . .	247	2,482	2,729	64	563	627	1,302
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.	63	1,496	1,559	36	944	980	1,107
XIV. General Labour and Miscellaneous§ . .	3,318	8,264	11,582	380	1,471	1,851	3,086
TOTAL . . . .	5,617	20,950	26,567	546	7,254	7,800	9,747
	**		**				

\* Including railway and tramway workshops. † Excluding railway and tramway workshops, but including construction and maintenance of permanent way and works. ‡ Including horticultural, viticultural and gardening. § Excluding railway and tramway employees and labourers employed on railway and tramway construction and maintenance. || Including persons in New South Wales, who received advances of travelling expenses from the Labour Bureau, but who were not directly engaged through the medium of that institution. ¶ Exclusive of Western Australia. \*\* Inclusive of Western Australia §§ Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia.

In each group the number of applicants for work was greater than the number of positions vacant. Of the six groups in which the number of applicants was over 1000, the over-supply of labour is most marked in Group II. (Engineering, etc.), with only 236 positions filled for every 1000 applicants for work, followed by Groups XIV. (Miscellaneous), with 266 VII. (Building), with 267, XII. (Agriculture, etc.), with 477, IX. (Rail and Tram Service), with 562 and XIII. (Domestic, etc.), with 710 positions filled for every 1000 applications for work.

5. **Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females.**—Of the total number of registrations for employment, (26,567), 25,059 were from males, and 1508 from females. Of the latter number 1250 were in Group XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), 769 registrations being reported in this group from New South Wales, 78 from Queensland, and 403 from Western Australia.

As regards positions filled (9747), 8688 were for male employees and 1059 for females. Of the latter number, 978 were in Group XIII., 620 being reported from New South Wales, 57 from Queensland, and 301 from Western Australia.

The following table gives particulars for male and female workers separately of the number of applications for employment, and from employers and the number of positions filled :—

**State Free Employment Bureaux.—Applications and Positions Filled, Males and Females, October to December, 1915.**

Particulars.	Applications for Employment.			* Applications from Employers.			Positions filled.
	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Received during Quarter.	Total.	On Live Register at Beginning of Quarter.	Notified during Quarter.	Total.	
Males .. .. .	5,473	19,586	25,059	516	6,341	6,857	8,688
Females .. .. .	144	1,364	1,508	30	913	943	1,059
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>5,617</b>	<b>20,950</b>	<b>26,567</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>7,254</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>9,747</b>

\* Exclusive of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

## SECTION XII.—INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

1. **Scope of Investigations.**—The various districts from which returns of industrial accidents were received during the fourth quarter of 1915 are the same as those from which similar information was furnished during preceding years. These districts are tabulated on page 84 of Labour Bulletin No. 9, and need not be recapitulated.

2. **Number of Accidents Reported during Years 1913, 1914, and 1915.**—The following table shews the number of accidents which occurred in each State during the years 1913, 1914, and 1915 :—

**Industrial Accidents.—Number Reported in each State during the Years 1913, 1914 and 1915.\***

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	C'with.
No. of Fatal Accidents ..	1913 .. ..	82	24	33	5	34	7	185
	1914-1st Quarter	20	1	12	..	5	6	44
	2nd ..	15	11	3	..	8	4	41
	3rd ..	12	7	6	3	4	2	34
	4th ..	14	7	4	..	14	1	40
	1915-1st ..	10	2	5	1	10	5	33
	2nd ..	12	10	5	1	5	1	34
	3rd ..	22	6	5	2	7	2	44
	*4th ..	9	5	2	5	..	3	24
No. of Accidents incapacitating for over 14 days ..	1913 .. ..	3,427	308	286	117	813	79	5,030
	1914-1st Quarter	885	83	105	27	190	20	1,310
	2nd ..	934	94	73	20	189	21	1,331
	3rd ..	899	98	84	22	163	19	1,285
	4th ..	520	92	122	15	221	16	986
	1915-1st ..	683	88	145	12	219	14	1,161
	2nd ..	665	125	144	28	260	14	1,236
	3rd ..	641	95	125	26	262	17	1,166
	*4th ..	822	93	103	31	5	32	1,086

\* Exclusive of mining accidents in Western Australia.

The number of fatal accidents for the fourth quarter of 1915 is lower by 59 per cent. in New South Wales, by 17 per cent. in Victoria, by 60 per cent. in Queensland, and higher by 150 per cent. in South Australia, and by 50 per cent. in Tasmania.

**3. Number of Accidents reported in each Industrial Group during Fourth Quarter, 1915.**—The following table gives similar particulars as to accidents classified in the various industrial groups :—

**Industrial Accidents.—Number reported in various Industrial Groups during Fourth Quarter, 1915.**

Industrial Group	Fatal.	Incap'itated for over 14 days.	Industrial Group.	Fatal.	Incap'itated for over 14 days.
I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	2	69	VII. Building and Scaffolding ..	2	7
II. Engineering, etc. ..	1	84	VIII. Mining ..	*13	*814
III. Food, Drink, etc. ..	1	31	IX. Lifts ..	5	3
IV. Clothing, Hats, etc.	..	22	X. Miscellaneous ..	..	4
V. Books, Printing, etc.	..	22			
VI. Other Manufacturing	..	30			
			<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>†24</b>	<b>†1,086</b>

\* Exclusive of Western Australia. † Exclusive of mining accidents in Western Australia.

The total number of fatal accidents in industries classified in Group VIII., exclusive of mining accidents in Western Australia, was 13, as compared with 29 for the preceding quarter. In New South Wales there were six fatal mining accidents, in Victoria one, in Queensland two, in South Australia two, and in Tasmania two. The total number of non-fatal accidents, in the same industries, exclusive of mining accidents in Western Australia, were 814, as compared with 667 for the preceding quarter, and of these, 705 occurred in New South Wales, 10 in Victoria, 69 in Queensland, and 30 in Tasmania.

In other industries 11 fatal accidents occurred, three in New South Wales, four in Victoria, three in South Australia, and one in Tasmania. The number of non-fatal accidents, apart from those in connection with mining, was 272.



# SECTION XIII.—THE COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION RECORD OF COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE COMMON- AND THE ARBITRATION (PUBLIC SERVICE) ACT

## 1.—COURT

### (i.) COMPULSORY CONFERENCES

PARTIES TO CONFERENCE.		PROCEDURE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Employees.	Employers.		
Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	Great Cobar Limited.	Application for Compulsory Conference by both parties.	Mining Industry in Australia.
Barrier Branch of the Amalgamated Miners' Association of Broken Hill and others.	Broken Hill Pty. Co. Ltd., and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees' Union.	Mining Industry at Broken Hill and Pt. Pirie.
Australian Tramway Employees' Association.	Municipal Tramways Trust, Adelaide, and another.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees' Association.	Tramway Industry at Adelaide and Launceston.
Federated Mining Employees' Association of Australia.	North Nuggety Ajax Co. No Liability and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees' Association.	Mining Industry in Victoria and Tasmania.
Federated Tanners and Leather Dressers' Employees' Union of Australia.	Alderson & Co. and others.	Compulsory Conference summoned by Deputy-President.	Leather Industry in Australia.

\* The President may, whenever in his opinion it is desirable for the purpose of preventing or settling an  
ference presided over by himself.

### (ii.) PRIVATE

Austarlian Builders' Labourers' Federation.	The Commonwealth of Australia.	Application made by Employees' Federation for Compulsory Conference. President did not issue Summonses, but asked parties to meet him in Private Conference.	Building Industry in Australia.
Postal Sorters' Union of Australia.	Public Service Commissioner.	Application in Chambers (Private Conference) for interpretation of Award.	Postal Service of the Commonwealth.
Waterside Workers' Federation of Australia.	Commonwealth S.S. Owners' Association.	Application in private Conference for interpretation of award as to payment for coal transport between 10 and 12 p.m.	Private Shipping Industry in Australia.

§ A resume of the main provisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Acts, 1904-11,

## AND ARBITRATION ACT 1904-1914. §

WEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION ACT 1904-1914  
1911 FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1915.

## PROCEEDINGS.

## SUMMONED UNDER SECTION 16 (a).\*

NATURE OF DISPUTE.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
<i>Re</i> settlement of dispute between Federated Engine Drivers' and Maxwell Gold Mining Co. Ltd.	Sydney, 1915. Aug. 14th.	Conference adjourned <i>sine die</i> to allow manager of the Gt. Cobar Ltd. to discuss with his Directors proposed increase of 1s. in rate of pay per shift all round.
<i>Re</i> Log of Wages and Conditions of Employment.	Melbourne, 1915. Sept. 6th, 8th, 10th.	No final agreement arrived at. Dispute referred into Court under Section 19D.
<i>Re</i> Plaintiff.	Melbourne, Sept. 20th, 1915.	Conference adjourned <i>sine die</i> . Officers of Association to submit proposals to men at Adelaide and Launceston. President to be advised of result.
<i>Re</i> terms and conditions set out in Plaintiff No. 30 of 1915.	Melbourne, Sept. 24th, 1915.	The Deputy-President referred dispute into Court, the hearing of evidence to begin on 11th October, 1915.
<i>Re</i> application to vary Award of Court No. 14 of 1912.	Melbourne, 1915, Sept. 27th.	After discussion parties conferred in private, but could not arrive at any agreement. Matter referred into Court, the hearing to commence on 29th Sept., 1915.

Industrial Dispute, summon any person to attend, at a time and place specified in the summons, at a Con-

## FERENCES.

<i>Re</i> wages and general conditions of employment.	Melbourne, 1915. Aug. 6th	Agreement arrived at and undertaking duly executed.
<i>Re</i> interpretation of Award of Court 11 of 1913.	Melbourne, 1915. Sept. 16th	Mr. Justice Powers decided to hear arguments of both sides in Court on 23rd Sept., 1915.
<i>Re</i> interpretation of Award of Court No. 14 of 1914.	Melbourne, 1915. Sept. 21st	The Deputy-President, Mr. Justice Powers, fixed double rates per hour as rate to be paid.

and the Arbitration (Public Service) Act, 1911, was given in Labour Bulletin, No. 5, pages 53 to 59.

## (iii.) ARBITRATION

CLAIMANT.	RESPONDENT.	DATE OF FILING OR REFERENCE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Federated Artificial Manure Trade and Chemical Workers' Union of Australia.	Cumming, Smith & Co. Pty. Ltd. and others.	Referred into Court under Section 19D on 27th February, 1914.	Chemical Industry in Australia.

## (iv.) APPEAL UNDER

CLAIMANT.	RESPONDENT.
Federated Public Service Assistants' Association of Australia.	Industrial Registrar.

\* The President may review, annul, rescind or vary any act

On 14th September, 1915, at Melbourne, Mr. Justice Higgins heard an application by the Minister for of employment are fair and reasonable for labour employed in the manufacture of Pig Iron. The Declaration

## RECORD OF COURT OPERATIONS UNDER THE COMMON- AND THE ARBITRATION (PUBLIC SERVICE) ACT

## 1.—COURT.

## (i.) COMPULSORY CONFERENCES

PARTIES TO CONFERENCE.		PROCEDURE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Employees.	Employers.		
1. Federated Engine-Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Co. Ltd. and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees' Union.	Mining industry in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania.
2. Federated Engine-Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	The Honorable the Minister for Home Affairs of the Commonwealth of Australia.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees' Union.	Railway industry in Western Australia and South Australia (trans-continental line).
3. Federated Marine Stewards' and Pantry-men's Association of Australasia	Commonwealth Steamship Owners' Association and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees' Union.	Shipping industry in Australasia.
4. Federated Liquor Trade Employees' Union of Australasia.	Tooth & Co. Ltd.	Compulsory Conference summoned by President of the Court.	Brewing Industry in Sydney, N.S.W.
5. Federated Engine-Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	W. Angliss & Co. Pty. Ltd. and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees' Union.	Meat Industry in Australia.

\* The President may, whenever in his opinion it is desirable for the purpose of preventing or settling an interference presided over by himself.

## CASES HEARD.

NATURE OF CLAIM.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
<i>Re</i> wages and general conditions of employment in the Chemical and Manure Industry.	Melbourne, 1915, June 16th to Aug. 6th.	Mr. Justice Higgins delivered final Award on August 6th, 1915. Agreements handed into Court to be certified under Section 24.

## SECTION 17.\*

INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Postal Service in the Commonwealth.	Melbourne, 1915 : Sept. 14th, 15th and 16th.	The Deputy-President, Mr. Justice Powers, dismissed appeal.

or decision of the Registrar in any manner which he thinks fit.

Trade and Customs under Section 11 of the Iron Bounty Act for a declaration as to what wages and conditions was refused.

WEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION ACT, 1904-1914,  
1911 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1915.

## PROCEEDINGS.

## SUMMONED UNDER SECTION 16 (a).\*

NATURE OF DISPUTE.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
<i>Re</i> log of wages, conditions and hours of employment, etc.	Melbourne, 1915, Sept. 30th and Oct. 2nd	Several agreements arrived at; remaining parties negotiating for settlement of questions in dispute with the object of executing agreements.
<i>Re</i> log. of wages, conditions and hours of employment, etc.	Melbourne, 1915, Oct. 6th & 11th	Men resumed work temporarily on undertaking given by Minister for Home Affairs of the Commonwealth. Matter referred into Court for Arbitration.
<i>Re</i> log. of wages and conditions of employment.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 5th & 11th	Agreement arrived at until award made by Court. Dispute referred into Court for Arbitration.
<i>Re</i> strike declared by Employees in Brewing trade in Sydney.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 9th, 15th and 17th	Agreement arrived at for brewery and licensed victuallers' sections. Dispute as to wine and spirits section, aerated water section and bottle washing section referred into Court for Arbitration.
<i>Re</i> rates of pay and conditions of employment	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 17th	Dispute referred into Court, as parties anticipate an agreement will be arrived at for certification by President under Section 24.

Industrial Dispute, summon any person to attend, at a time and place specified in the summons, at a Con-

## (i.) COMPULSORY CONFERENCES

PARTIES TO CONFERENCE.		PROCEDURE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Employers.	Employees.		
6. Federated Gas Employees' Industrial Union.	Metropolitan Gas Co. and others.	Conference summoned and held at the suggestion of His Honor, Mr. Justice Higgins.	Gas Industry in Victoria and Tasmania.
7. Australian Workers' Union.	The Fruit-growers—Members of the Mildura Branch of the Australian Dried Fruits Association and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by fruit growers.	Fruit Growing Industry in Victoria and South Australia.
8. Australian Saddlery and Harness Workers' Trade Employees' Federation.	The Honorable the Minister for Defence of the Commonwealth of Australia.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees.	Leather Industry in the Commonwealth.
9. Federated Storemen and Packers' Union of Australia.	The Skin and Hide Merchants' Association of Brisbane and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Employees.	Wool, Skin, Hide, Grain and Tallow Industry in Australia.
10. Federated Seamen's Union of Australia.	Commonwealth Steamship Owners' Association.	Application for Compulsory Conference by employees.	Shipping Industry in Australia.
11. Barrier Branch of the Amalgamated Miners' Association of Broken Hill and others.	Broken Hill Pty. Co. Ltd. and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by employees.	Mining Industry at Broken Hill and Port Pirie.
12. Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australia.	Murray River Saw Mills Pty. Ltd. and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by employees.	Timber Industry of Australia.
13. Merchant Service Guild of Australasia.	Commonwealth Steamship Owners' Association and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by employees.	Shipping Industry of Australasia.
14. Australian Builders' Labourers' Federation.	Master Builders' Association of Victoria and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by employees.	Building Industry in Australia.
15. Federated Clerks' Union of Australia.	Commonwealth of Australia, The Public Service Commissioner and others.	Application for Compulsory Conference by employees.	Clerical Profession in Australia.
16. Australian Glass Bottle Makers' Union of Australia.	Melbourne Glass Bottle Works Co. Pty. Ltd. and others.	Do.	Bottle Making Industry in Australia.
17. The Australian Workers' Union and others.	Minister for Home Affairs of the Commonwealth of Australia.	Application for Compulsory Conference by Minister for Home Affairs.	Railway Industry in Western Australia and South Australia.

SUMMONED UNDER SECTION 16 (a)—*cont.*

NATURE OF DISPUTE.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
<i>Re</i> application to vary award of Court, No. 6 of 1912.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 12th, 18th and 25th	Offer of employers to be submitted to mass meeting of employees. Conference adjourned in meantime. Interim settlement arrived at by parties.
<i>Re</i> claims for wages and conditions of employment set out in log.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 23rd & 25th	Agreement arrived at in conference increasing basic wage from 8s. to 9s. 4d. per day. Terms of such agreement to be during the war and six months after the declaration of peace. Dispute referred into Court.
<i>Re</i> statement of wages and conditions of Labour.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 23rd	Parties mutually agreed to settlement of matter in dispute except as regards wages. Men claimed £3 8s. (reduced from £3 15s.), and Department considered £3 5s. was all that could be allowed. His Honor fixed £3 6s. without prejudice to claim coming on in Court. Dispute referred into Court.
<i>Re</i> log of wages and conditions of employment.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 19th, 20th, 24th and 27th, and Dec. 3rd.	Dispute referred into Court.
<i>Re</i> rates of wages.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 24th and Dec. 8th	Agreement arrived at to be embodied in an order varying award. Application to vary to be made to Court on 9th Dec., 1915.
<i>Re</i> log of wages and conditions of employment.	Melbourne, 1915, Oct. 20th, Nov. 19th and 20th, and Dec. 10th	As underground workers refused to carry out their part of the agreement the President relieved the employers of their part and dissolved the conference. Dispute referred into Court.
<i>Re</i> log of wages and conditions of employment.	Melbourne, 1915, Dec. 15th	Dispute referred into Court. Parties to confer and report to the President when agreement reached.
<i>Re</i> log of wages and conditions of employment.	Melbourne, 1915, Dec. 16th	No agreement arrived at, and dispute referred into Court.
<i>Re</i> demand for increase of wages.	Melbourne, 1915, Dec. 17th	No agreement arrived at except as to one respondent, viz., The Commonwealth of Australia, which undertook to pay 1s. 5½d. per hour flat rate. President stated he would take the matter in hand in Feb., if an application submitted to vary award.
<i>Re</i> rates of pay payable to temporary clerks employed in the Commonwealth.	Melbourne, 1915, Dec. 11th, 16th and 17th	Dispute referred into Court.
<i>Re</i> log of wages and conditions of employment.	Melbourne, 1915, Dec. 17th	No settlement arrived at. Dispute referred into Court.
<i>Re</i> conditions of employment on the Commonwealth Railways, viz., Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta line.	Melbourne, 1915, Nov. 26th and Dec. 20th	No agreement arrived at. Dispute referred into Court.

## (ii.) CASES

CLAIMANT.	RESPONDENT.	DATES OF FILING OR REFERENCE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
1. Australian Tramway Employees' Association.	Municipal Tramway Trust, Adelaide, and another.	13th August, 1915.	Tramway Industry of Adelaide and Launceston.
2. Australian Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Officers' Association.	Public Service Commissioner of the Commonwealth and another.	15th Oct., 1913.	Post and Telegraph Service of the Commonwealth.
3. The Commonwealth Postmasters' Association.	Public Service Commissioner of the Public Service of the Commonwealth and others.	12th Feb., 1914.	Postal Service of the Commonwealth.
4. Australian Saddlery and Harness Workers' Trade Employees' Federation.	The Minister for Defence of the Commonwealth of Australia.	Referred into Court on 26th Nov., 1915. Plaintiff filed on 10th Dec., 1915.	Leather Industry in the Commonwealth.
5. Federated Mining Employees' Association of Australia.	North Nuggety Ajax Co. No Liability and others.	September 14th, 1915.	Mining Industry in Victoria and Tasmania.

## (iii.) APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 38(o)

APPLICANTS.	IN THE MATTER OF THE AWARD IN—
1. Federated Tanners' and Leather Dressers' Union of Australia.	Federated Tanners' and Leather Dressers' Employees' Union of Australia and Alderson & Co. and others.
2. Postal Sorters' Union of Australia.	Postal Sorters' Union of Australia and Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth and another.
3. Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth.	Postal Sorters' Union of Australia and Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth and another.
4. Australian Letter Carriers' Association.	Australian Letter Carriers' Association and Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth and another.
5. Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth.	Australian Letter Carriers' Association and Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth and another.
6. Federated Seamen's Union of Australasia.	Federated Seamen's Union of Australia and The Commonwealth Steamship Owners' Association and others.
7. The Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth.	Australian Telegraph and Telephone Construction and Maintenance Union and The Public Service Commissioner for the Commonwealth and another.
8. Waterside Workers' Federation of Australia.	Waterside Workers' Federation of Australia and The Commonwealth Steamship Owners' Association and others; and also Gilchrist, Watt and Sanderson and others, and Waterside Workers' Federation of Australia.
9. Vacuum Oil Company Pty. Ltd.	Do.

\* The Court shall, as regards every industrial dispute of which it has cognizance,

## HEARD.

NATURE OF CLAIM.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Claim in respect to wages, hours of work, time of work, classification of duties, overtime, rates of pay for work done on Sundays or holidays or as overtime, etc., etc.	Melbourne, 1915, Oct. 29th.	Agreements handed in in settlement of the dispute.
Claim in respect to classification, salary, hours, overtime, allowances, etc., of post masters and officers in clerical division and general division officers employed in postal service.	N.S.W., 1915, Jan. 16th, 17th & 18th; Vic., 1915, Sept. 15th to 30th, Oct. 1st to 29th, and Nov. 1st.	Final award made by Mr. Justice Powers on Nov. 1st, 1915.
Claim in respect to salaries, wages, rates of pay, time of payment, hours of duty, overtime, etc.	Melbourne, 1915 : Sept. 15th to 30th, Oct. 1st, to 29th, and Nov. 1st.	Final award made by Mr. Justice Powers on Nov. 1st, 1915.
Claim in respect of wages, hours of work, definition of certain work, time of work, overtime, holidays, rates of pay for work done on Sundays and holidays, etc., etc.	Melbourne, 1915 : Dec. 16th & 22nd	Final award made by Mr. Justice Powers on Dec. 22nd, 1915.
Claim in respect to wages, classification of work, conditions of work, payment for functions of a mixed character, etc.	Victoria, 1915; Oct. 11th to 28th, Dec. 1st to 24th; Tasmania, 1915; Nov. 4th to 11th.	Final award made by Mr. Justice Powers on Dec. 24th, 1915.

## TO VARY ORDERS AND FOR AWARDS.\*

NATURE OF APPLICATION.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Application made by Employees' Union to vary Award of Court, No. 14 of 1912, made on 18th May, 1914, in respect to clause A—Wages.	Melbourne, 1915 : Sept. 20th and 29th, Oct. 1st.	Mr. Justice Powers delivered judgment, and made order varying Award on Oct. 1st, 1915.
Application made by Employees' Union to vary Award of Court, No. 11 of 1913, made on 11th June, 1915.	Melbourne, 1915 : Oct. 11th & 13th	Mr. Justice Powers delivered judgment and made order varying award on Oct. 13th, 1915.
Application made by the Public Service Commissioner to vary Award of Court, No. 11 of 1913, made on 11th June, 1915, in respect to payment for work performed on holidays.	Melbourne, 1915 : Oct. 18th & 25th	Mr. Justice Powers delivered judgment, and dismissed application on Oct. 25th, 1915.
Application made by Employees' Union to vary Award of Court, No. 19 of 1912, made on 8th April, 1915.	Melbourne, Oct. 18th & 25th	Mr. Justice Powers delivered judgment and made order 25th Oct., 1915.
Application made by Public Service Commissioner to vary award of Court, No. 19 of 1912, made on 8th April, 1915.	Melbourne, 1915 : Oct. 18th & 25th	
Application made by Employees' Union to vary Award of Court, No. 20 of 1911, made on 30th Nov., 1911, in respect to an increase in the rate of wages.	Melbourne, 1915 : Dec. 9th	Mr. Justice Higgins delivered judgment, and made an order varying award on 9th Dec. 1915.
Application made by Public Service Commissioner to vary Award of Court, No. 10 of 1912, made on 29th April, 1914.	Melbourne, 1915 : Dec. 9th.	Mr. Justice Higgins delivered judgment and dismissed application on 9th Dec., 1915.
Application made by Employees' Federation to vary Award Nos. 1 of 1914, and 14 of 1914, in respect to amendment of Exhibit "A," Launceston. Industrial agreement dated 6th Oct., 1911, and varying other provisions prescribed in the said Awards.	Melbourne, 1915 : July 28th, Aug. 2nd to 6th; Sept. 14th to 30th; Oct. 1st to 29th; Nov. 3rd to 26th; Dec. 2nd to 18th. Sydney, 1915 : Aug. 15th to 27th; Sept. 2nd	Mr. Justice Higgins delivered judgment and made order varying Award on 18th Dec., 1915.
Application was made by Vacuum Oil Co. Propy. Ltd. to vary Award No. 1 of 1914, and 14 of 1914.	Do.	Mr. Justice Higgins delivered judgment and made order varying Award on 18th Dec., 1915.

have power to vary its orders and awards and to reopen any question.



(iv.) APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 38 (o)\* TO VARY OR  
UNDER THE PROVI.

APPLICANT.	IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENTS CERTIFIED AND FILED UNDER SECTION 24 AND IN THE MATTER OF
The Federated Glass Founders' Association of Australia.	The Federated Glass Founders' Association of Aus- tralia and Melbourne Glass Bottle Works Pty. Ltd. and others.

\* The Court shall, as regards every industrial dispute of which it has cognizance,

## (v.) APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 60\* FOR

APPLICANT.	NAME OF ORGANISATION.
Federated Public Service Assistants' Association of Australia.	Australian Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Officers' Association.

\* If it appears to the Court, on the application of any organisation or person interested, or of the Registrar, registration to be cancelled, and thereupon it shall be cancelled accordingly.

## (vi.) PRIVATE

PARTIES TO CONFERENCE.		PROCEDURE.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Employees.	Employers.		
Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees' Association.	J. C. Williamson Ltd.	The parties requested Mr. Justice Powers to act as private Arbi- trator.	Theatrical Industry in Australia.

## (vii.) APPLICATIONS FOR PENALTIES FOR BREACHES

APPLICANT.	RESPONDENT.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.	
Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	Clyde Engineering Co. Ltd.	Engineering Industry in N.S.W.	
2. Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.	Mort's Dock Engineering Co. Ltd.	Engineering Industry in N.S.W.	

\* No person shall wilfully make default in compliance

## (viii.) PRIVATE

CLAIMANT.	RESPONDENT.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Small Arms Factory Employees' Associa- tion.	The Honorable the Minister for Defence.	Munition Industry in Australia.

## (ix.) SUMMONS UNDER SEC.

CLAIMANT.	RESPONDENT.	INDUSTRY AND LOCALITY AFFECTED.
Australian Journalists' Association.	Gilbert Melross, Launceston.	Journalism Industry at Launceston, Tasmania.

\* The Court may, on the application of the trustees or other officers authorised to sue on behalf of, or in pursuance of the rules of the organisation, or of any contribution to penalty incurred or money payable by the

AMEND MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENTS CERTIFIED AND FILED  
SIONS OF SECTION 24.

NATURE OF APPLICATION.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Application for leave to amend or vary industrial agreement between said parties made 4th June, 1912, and certified and filed under provisions of Section 24, in respect to Plaint 20 of 1912.	Melbourne, 1915 : Dec. 14th, 17th, and 18th.	Mr. Justice Higgins delivered judgment and made an order varying award on Dec. 18th, 1915.

have power to vary its orders and awards and to reopen any question.

## CANCELLATION OF AN ORGANISATION.

REASONS FOR CANCELLATION.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
The members belong to general division Officers of Commonwealth Public Service, and are eligible for membership, and could conveniently belong to the Federated Public Service Assistants' Association of Australia.	Melbourne, 1915 : Oct. 11th & 13th	Mr. Justice Powers delivered judgment on 13th October, 1915, and dismissed application.

that for any reason the registration of an organisation ought to be cancelled, the Court shall order the

## CONFERENCE.

NATURE OF DISPUTE.	DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Re payment to be made to men when travelling on water between the ports in New Zealand on homeward trip.	Melbourne, 1915 : Oct. 14th.	As the parties were not in agreement as to when the tour actually finished, His Honour Mr. Justice Powers, asked them to split the difference and each pay half the amount in dispute.

## OF AWARD UNDER SECTION 49\* OF THE ACT.

NATURE OF APPLICATION.	DATE OF HEARING	RESULT
Eight (8) summonses for breaches of award No. 6 of 1910 in respect to wages payable to James Garrard, Thomas Watson, J. Henrique, J. Drew, George Rowe, Harold McCree, William Cook and Christopher Rames respectively.	Sydney, 1915 : Nov. 29th & Dec. 3rd.	The parties stated that they had come to an agreement and the cases were withdrawn.
Summons for breach of award No. 6 of 1910, in respect to wages payable to Charles Abbott.	Sydney, 1915 : Nov. 29th, & Dec. 3rd.	Do.

with any order or award. Penalty—Twenty Pounds.

## ARBITRATION.

DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Melbourne, 1915 : Nov. 23rd ; Sydney, 1915 ; Dec. 1st.	Mr. Justice Powers delivered judgment on December 1st. His Honor held that men should continue working during night shift, not exceeding eight (8) hours per shift at ordinary rates until 31st March next.

## TION 69\* OF THE ACT.

DATE OF HEARING.	RESULT.
Hobart, 1915 : Nov. 16th.	Order made to pay amount of £2 19s. 6d., being amount of fines, penalties and subscriptions due and payable in pursuance of the rules. Amount to be paid by monthly amounts of 5s.

the name of the organisation, order the payment by any member of any fine, penalty or subscription payable in organisation under an award or order of the Court ; no such contribution to exceed Ten Pounds.

## SECTION XIV.—REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS AND BUREAUX IN AUSTRALIA.

*(In this Section particulars are furnished of Reports specially affecting labour and industrial matters in the Commonwealth, received since the publication of the last Labour Bulletin).*

### A.—COMMONWEALTH.

1. **Interstate Commission. Tariff Investigation.** Reports Nos. 225 and 234. Appendices Nos. 235 to 238 (Melbourne, Government Printer.)
2. **The Safety Valve.** (Official Organ of the Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia), February, 1916. (Sydney, "The Worker" Office.)
3. **Amalgamated Society of Carpenters' and Joiners' Monthly Report,** March, 1916. (Sydney, F. W. White.)
4. **Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Monthly Report,** February, 1916. (Sydney, H. Hearne & Co.)
5. **The Australasian Typographical Journal,** February, 1916. (Melbourne, J. Osborne.)

### B.—NEW SOUTH WALES.

1. **Report on the Working of the Factories and Shops Act, 1912, during the Year 1914.** (Sydney, Government Printer.)
2. **New South Wales Industrial Gazette,** February, 1916. (Sydney, Government Printer.)
3. **Electrical Trades' Journal,** February, 1916. (Sydney, "The Worker," Office.)
4. **The Furniture Trades' Journal,** March, 1916. (Sydney, Burrows & Co.)
5. **The Baking Trades' Gazette,** February, 1916. (Sydney, A. J. Tomalin & Co.)
6. **The Railway and Tramway Record** (Official Organ of the Grand Council of Railway and Tramway Unions of New South Wales), March, 1916. (Sydney, A. J. Tomalin & Co.)

### C.—VICTORIA.

1. **The Law Relating to Factories and Shops in Victoria.** (Melbourne, Government Printer.)
2. **The Railways' Union Gazette,** February, 1916. (Melbourne, J. D. Michie.)
3. **The Timber Worker** (Official Organ of the Amalgamated Timber Worker's Union, Victorian Branch), February, 1916. (Melbourne, H. Henkel.)
4. **Twenty-ninth Annual Report of the Government Statist, on Trade Unions for the year 1914.**

### C.—QUEENSLAND.

1. **Fifth Report of the Workers' Dwelling Board for the Year ended 30th June, 1915.** (Brisbane, Government Printer.)
2. **The Queensland Railway Times,** March, 1916. (Ipswich, James Wilkinson.)
3. **Report of the Director of Labour, and Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops for Year ended 30th June, 1915.** (Brisbane, Government Printer.)

## SECTION XV.—IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

*(In this Section particulars are furnished of Reports specially affecting labour, received from other countries since the publication of the last Labour Bulletin.)*

### A.—UNITED KINGDOM.

1. **Board of Trade Labour Gazette**, October, 1915, to January, 1916. (London, T. Fisher Unwin.)
2. **Bulletin of the International Labour Office**, Vol. X., Nos. 1 and 2. (Woolwich, The Pioneer Press Limited.)
3. **The World's Labour Laws**, November, 1915. (Woolwich, The Pioneer Press Limited.)

### B.—CANADA.

1. **The Labour Gazette**, October, November, 1915. (Ottawa, Government Printer.)

### C.—NEW ZEALAND.

1. **The Labour Gazette**, December, 1915. (Wellington, Government Printer.)

### D.—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

1. **Department of Labour, Bureau of Labour Statistics**. (Washington, Government Printer.)
  - (a) **Monthly Review of the U.S. Bureau of Labour Statistics**, Nos. 1 to 3.
  - (b) **Industrial Accidents and Hygiene Series**, Bulletin No. 6. Lead Poisoning in the Manufacture of Storage Batteries.
  - (c) **Wages and Hours of Labour Series**, Bulletin No. 17, Union Scale of Wages and Hours of Labour. May 1, 1914.
  - (d) **Miscellaneous Series**, Bulletin No. 9, Foreign Food Prices as affected by the war.
2. **California**. Labour Laws of the State of California. (California, State Printing Office.)
3. **Massachusetts**. (a) Seventh Annual Report on Labour Organisation, 1914. (b) Labour Bibliography, 1914. (c) Wages and Hours of Labour in the Manufacture of Paper Products in Massachusetts. (d) Labour Legislation in Massachusetts, 1915. (e) Tables used by the Industrial Accident Board. (f) The Sequel to the Invitation to Employers to Organize for Safety. (g) Thirty-first Quarterly Report on Unemployment in Massachusetts. (Boston, Wright and Potter Printing Co.)
4. **Hawaii**. Fourth Report of the Board of Immigration, Labour and Statistics. (Honolulu, Honolulu Star-Bulletin.)
5. **Maryland**. Twenty-third Annual Report of the Bureau of Statistics and Information. (Baltimore, Mules Printing Co.)
6. **New York**. Government Labour Reports, October, 1913, to May, 1915. (Albany, J. B. Lyon Co.)
7. **Virginia**. Eighteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industrial Statistics. (Richmond, Government Printer.)
8. **Wisconsin**. Industrial Commission Law.

## E.—GERMANY.

1. **International Metal Workers' Review**, Nos. 9 and 10, 1915. (Stuttgart, A. Schlicke & Co.)
2. **Bulletin of the International Union of Woodworkers**, No. 6, 1915. (Berlin, published by the Union.)
3. **International News Letter**, Vol. III., Nos. 4 to 6. (Berlin, C. Legien.)

## F.—HOLLAND.

1. **Monthly Journal of the Central Bureau of Statistics**, September to November, 1915. (La Hague, Gebr. Belinfante.)

## G.—ITALY.

1. **Semi-monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, Nos. 20-24, 1915. (Rome, Oficina Poligrafica Italiana.)
2. **Monthly Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour**, Nos. 1 and 2, 1915. (Rome, Oficina Poligrafica Italiana.)

## H.—DENMARK.

1. **Report on the Working of the National Unemployment Insurance Fund, 1914-1915**. (Copenhagen, H. Jensen.)

## I.—NORWAY.

1. **Industrial Statistics, 1913**. (Christiania, H. Aschehoug & Co.)
2. **Social Review**, Nos. 4 and 5, 1915. (Christiania, H. Aschehoug & Co.)

## J.—SPAIN.

1. **Bulletin of the Institute for Social Reform**, September to November, 1915. (Madrid, M. Minuesa de los Rios.)

## K.—SWEDEN.

1. **Social Review**. (Journal of the Labour Department), Nos. 10 and 11, 1915. (Stockholm, P. Norstedt & Sons.)
2. **Collective Agreements in 1914**. (Stockholm, P. Norstedt & Sons.)

## L.—FINLAND.

1. **Journal of Labour Statistics**, No. 5, 1915. (Helsingfors, Government Printer.)

## M.—INDIA.

1. **War Prices and Freights**. (Calcutta, Government Printer.)

## N.—BRAZIL.

1. **Bulletin of the Department of Labour**, No. 14, 1915. (San Paulo, Rothschild & Co.)

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.  
(Labour and Industrial Branch.)

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